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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Klibi Leaves Tunis for Cairo Arab Summit *[MAP]* 1
GCC Confirms Sovereignty, Freedom of Action *[Riyadh Radio]* 1
Arab Leaders Continue To Arrive for Summit 1
Kuwaiti Amir Al-Sabah *[Cairo Radio]* 1
Iraq's Ramadan, 'Aziz *[INA]* 1
UAE President *[MENA]* 1
Al-Asad, 'Arafat, Others *[Cairo Radio]* 1
Saudi King Fahd *[Cairo Radio]* 2
Jordan's King Husayn *[MENA]* 2
Omani, Bahraini, Algerian Leaders *[MENA]* 2
Djibouti President *[Cairo Radio]* 2
Yemeni President Salih *[MENA]* 2
Somali Foreign Minister *[MENA]* 2
Leaders in Cairo To Hold Bilateral Consultations 2
Summit Opens 10 Aug *[Cairo Radio]* 2
Mubarak Meets Kuwait Minister *[MENA]* 2
Mubarak Receives Iraq's Ramadan *[MENA]* 2
Meets With Ramadan, 'Aziz *[INA]* 3
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Ramadan *[INA]* 3
King Husayn Meets With Ramadan *[INA]* 3
Mubarak Resumes Meetings *[Cairo Radio]* 3
King Fahd Receives Kuwaiti Amir *[Riyadh Radio]* 4
Al-Asad Meets With Kuwaiti Amir *[Damascus Radio]* 4
King Husayn Meets Arab Leaders *[Amman Radio]* 4
Tunis Foreign Ministry Calls for Summit Delay 4
Says Preparation Time Needed *[Tunis Radio]* 4
Summit Postponed Until 10 Aug *[MENA]* 4
Iraq Objects to Kuwaiti Amir's Participation *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 5
Iraqi Refusal Causes Delay *[VOL]* 5
Tariq 'Aziz Gives News Conference *[MENA]* 5
Summit To Hold Open Session, Leaders To Speak *[Cairo Radio]* 6
Al-Sharif on Arab Response to Summit Call, Agenda *[Cairo Radio]* 6
Summit Draft Solution to Gulf Crisis Outlined *[Cairo Radio]* 7
Iraq, Kuwait Delegations Attend Summit Opening *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 7

Palestinian Affairs

Mufti Sanctions Killing of U.S. Supporters *[INA]* 7

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Commentary Opposes Freezing Kuwait, Iraq Assets *[Algiers Radio]* 8
Parties Comment on Assembly Dissolution *[Algiers TV]* 8
Arab Islamic Forces Movement Registered *[Algiers Radio]* 8
Splinter Group Founds Algerian Liberal Party *[Algiers Radio]* 8

Egypt

Mubarak Briefs Opposition Leaders on Developments *[Cairo Radio]* 9
Ruling Party Calls for Iraqi Withdrawal 5 Aug *[MENA]* 9
Socialists Reject 'Any Aggression' Against Iraq *[INA]* 9
Press, Radio Comment on Invasion Consequences 10
AL-AHRAM Condemns 'Ugly Deed' *[4 Aug]* 10
Arabs in 'Unenviable' Position *[Cairo Radio]* 12
Saddam Makes 'Same Mistake' as Shah *[Cairo Radio]* 13
AL-AKHBAR on Invasion Pretexts *[MENA]* 14
Palestinian 'Anti-Egypt Campaign' *[AL-MUSAWWAR 3 Aug]* 14
Iraqi Withdrawal Urged *[ROSE AL-YUSUF 6 Aug]* 16
MENA Reviews Economic Effects 17
Commentary Views Cairo Arab Summit *[Cairo Radio]* 17
Arab Indifference Condemned *[AL-AKHBAR 8 Aug]* 18
Libyan Officials Visit, Discuss Cooperation 18
Qadhdhaf Al-Damm Arrives 1 Aug *[MENA]* 18
Al-Talhi Meets Mubarak *[MENA]* 18
Leaves for Consultations *[MENA]* 18
Al-Hinshari Discusses Security *[MENA]* 18
Najibullah Offer on Full Diplomatic Ties Rejected *[AL-WAFD 2 Aug]* 19

Libya

Volunteers Offer To Confront U.S. Gulf Presence *[Tripoli Radio]* 19
Register at Iraqi Embassy *[JANA]* 19
Al-Qadhdhafi Confirms USSR Halts Arms Supplies *[Hamburg DPA]* 19
'Demonstration of Anger' at Saudi Embassy *[Tripoli International]* 19

Mauritania

4,000 Volunteer for Kuwait 'Army' *[MENA]* 20

Morocco

Laraki, Delegation Leave for Cairo Arab Summit *[MAP]* 20
Filali Appointed State Foreign Affairs Minister *[MAP]* 20

Sudan

Statements Oppose Western Role in Gulf Crisis 20
Trade Union Leadership *[Omdurman Radio]* 20
National Dialogue Conference *[Omdourman Radio]* 20
Al-Bashir Leaves for Cairo Summit 9 Aug *[SUNA]* 21
Demonstration Held Before U.S. Embassy *[MENA]* 21
18 Detained Trade Unionists Released *[Omdurman Radio]* 21
Officials Address Trade Union Conference 21
Minister on 'Economic War' *[SUNA]* 21
Al-Bashir Stresses Dialogue *[SUNA]* 21
Conference Ends 5 Aug *[SUNA]* 22

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Amir on Summit, Iraq's 'Flagrant Aggression' *[WAKH]* 23
Iranian, Bahraini Foreign Ministers Denounce Iraq *[IRNA]* 23
Velayati Leaves Manama 9 Aug *[WAKH]* 23

Kuwait

Resistance Reportedly Attacks Iraqi Positions *[VOL]* 23
Moroccan Aircraft Parked at Airport Since 1 Aug *[MAP]* 23
Crowd Expresses 'Joy' Over 'Return of Branch' *[INA]* 23
Emir's Brother Comments on Kuwait Situation *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 8 Aug]* 24

Saudi Arabia

Government Praises Western Military Support *[SPA]* 25
King Tells Airlines, Embassies To Aid Kuwaitis *[SPA]* 25
Crown Prince Charged With Handling State Affairs *[SPA]* 26
Crown Prince Receives Irish Premier's Call *[Riyadh TV]* 26
Ambassador to Austria Comments on Gulf Crisis *[Vienna TV]* 26

United Arab Emirates

Council Discusses Crisis; Zayid Leaves for Cairo *[Abu Dhabi Radio]* 26
Supreme Council Calls for Withdrawal *[WAKH]* 27
Minister Asks OPEC To Observe Oil Quotas *[WAKH]* 27

Yemen

Salih Receives Sultan Qabus Message, Gives Reply *[Sanaa Radio]* 27
Demonstrators Surround U.S. Embassy in Sanaa *[MENA]* 27
Minister Apologizes for Attacks on Embassies *[MENA]* 27

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn Meets With Yasir 'Arafat 9 Aug *[INA]* 28
Ramadan, 'Aziz Leave for Cairo Emergency Summit *[INA]* 28
Country's Borders To Open for Departing Arabs *[MENA]* 28
Closed to U.S., West European Citizens *[AFP]* 28
Ambassador in Athens Warns of Chemical Warfare *[Athens Radio]* 28
Diplomat Says U.S. To Be Hit 'Where It Hurts' *[INA]* 28
Diplomatic Missions in Kuwait 'Illegal' *[INA]* 29
Government Urges Kuwaitis To Return To Work *[Baghdad Radio]* 29
Paper Assails Egyptian Journalists, U.S. 'Agents' *[INA]* 29
Ramadan Briefs Sudan's Al-Bashir on 'Conspiracy' *[INA]* 30
Islamic Leader Urges Elimination of 'Statelets' *[INA]* 30
Paper Hopes Arabs Will Not Join 'Enemy Camp' *[INA]* 31
Minister on 'Great Achievements' in Oil Sector *[INA]* 32
Islamic Jihad Members Detained, Moved to Baghdad *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 32
Text of Draft Constitution Dated 7 Jul *[AL-JUMHURIYAH 30 Jul]* 33
Correction to Iraq To Honor Kuwaiti Obligations 47

ISRAEL

Shamir Discusses Iraqi Threat, Support for U.S. 48
Addresses Defense College *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 48
Comments to Reporters *[Jerusalem Radio]* 49
Shamir Seeks To Upgrade Contacts With U.S. *[MA'ARIV 10 Aug]* 49
Arens Discusses Iraqi Chemical Threat 50
Considers Missiles *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 10 Aug]* 50
Comments on Arrow Launch *[Jerusalem Radio]* 51
Levi Discusses Iraq-Kuwait, PLO Dialogue 51
Assesses Threat *[Jerusalem Radio]* 51
Warns of 'Preemptive Strike' *[Jerusalem TV]* 52
Further on Iraqi Threat *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 52
Netanyahu Praises Bush Leadership Against Iraq *[Jerusalem Radio]* 53
General Shomron on Iraqi Threat, Readiness *[Jerusalem TV]* 53
Security, Disarmament Talks With USSR Scheduled *[HA'ARETZ 10 Aug]* 54

JORDAN

Three U.S. Citizens Reach Border From Iraq *[AFP]* 55
Egyptians, Other Foreigners Arrive From Kuwait *[MENA]* 55
House Urges Arabs To Resist Foreign Presence *[Amman Radio]* 55
Parliament To Ask Al-Asad for Help Against Iraq *[VOL]* 55
Ba'thist Cable Urges Al-Asad To Support Iraq *[AL-RAY 9 Aug]* 55
Islamic Front Declares Support For Iraq *[AL-RAY 9 Aug]* 56
Editorial Criticizes U.S. Policy *[AL-DUSTUR 7 Aug]* 56
Air Raid Sirens Sound in Maintenance Test *[Amman Radio]* 57
Minister Warns of 'Measures' To Stop Hoarding *[Amman TV]* 57
Paper Explains Exchange Rate of Kuwaiti Dinar *[AL-DUSTUR 9 Aug]* 57

LEBANON

Six Held by Amal Confess To Kidnapping Higgins *[AL-NAHAR 6 Aug]* 58
Groups Pledge To Work Toward Hostages' Release *[Beirut Radio]* 58
Junblatt on Gulf Crisis, U.S. Intervention *[VOM]* 58
Hizballah Statement Denounces U.S. 'Invasion' *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 59

SYRIA

U.S. Assistant Secretary Kelly Arrives 9 Aug *[Damascus Radio]* 60
Meets With Qaddur *[Damascus Radio]* 60
NPF Supports Al-Asad Efforts in Gulf Crisis *[Damascus Radio]* 60
Army Chief Calls Invasion 'Unprecedented Event' *[Damascus Radio]* 60
Deputy Chief of Kuwaiti Amir's Court on Stance *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 8 Aug]* 60

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Tribal Jirgah Session Supports Government *[BAKHTAR]* 62
Resolution To Combat Drug Production, Addiction *[BAKHTAR]* 62
Campaign Against Narcotics Smuggling Outlined *[BAKHTAR]* 62

Bangladesh

Foreign Minister Meets Australian Counterpart 63
Cooperation To Be Expanded *[Dhaka Radio]* 63
Ends Visit, Departs *[Dhaka Radio]* 63

India

Pakistani Foreign Secretary Arrives on Visit 63
'No Change' in Foreign Policy *[Delhi Radio]* 63
Comments on Kashmir *[Islamabad Radio]* 63
Discusses Hopes for Talks *[Delhi TV]* 64
Indian Sources Not Optimistic *[London International]* 64
Gujral Reviews Safety of Indians in Kuwait *[Delhi TV]* 64
Nine Killed, Akali Dal Leader Injured in Punjab *[Delhi Radio]* 65
Devi Lal Addresses Farmers Rally in New Delhi 65
Farmers Support Janata Dal *[Delhi Radio]* 65
V.P. Singh Declines Invitation *[Delhi Radio]* 65
Correction to Farmers Rally Faith in Devi Lal 65

Iran

Besharati Opposes Foreign Forces in Persian Gulf *[IRNA]* 65
Velayati Comments on Persian Gulf Tour *[Tehran Radio]* 66
Official Denies Messages Exchanged With U.S. *[IRNA]* 66
Reza'i Warns on U.S. Military Presence in Gulf *[IRNA]* 66
Ayatollah Yazdi's Friday Prayers Focus on Gulf *[Tehran Radio]* 67
Syrian Envoy Backs Iran's Stance on Iraq, Kuwait *[IRNA]* 67

Commentary Views Iraqi Occupation of Kuwait *[Tehran Radio]* 68
Ambassador to Kuwait Sadeqi Interviewed *[Tehran TV]* 68

Nepal & Bhutan

Communists Say Constitution Commission Secretive *[AFP]* 70

Pakistan

Prime Minister Details 'Accountability' Process *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
Senate Committee Considers More Media Freedom *[Islmabad Radio]* 71
Ejazul Haq Criticizes Jatoi Accountability Plan *[DAWN 9 Aug]* 72
Junejo Opposes Jatoi Appointment as Caretaker *[THE NATION pp 1, 12]* 72
Delhi Notes Opposition Criticism of Bhutto Ouster *[Delhi Radio]* 73
Bhutto Terms Goverment Ouster 'Military Coup' 73
AFP Interviews Bhutto in Karachi 9 Aug 73
Foreign Secretary Leaves for Delhi Talks 9 Aug *[Islamabad Radio]* 74

Sri Lanka

Army Foils LTTE Attack on Muslim Village *[LANKAPUVATH]* 74
Stock of LTTE Ammunition Seized in Ampara *[LANKAPUVATH]* 74

Inter-Arab Affairs

Klibi Leaves Tunis for Cairo Arab Summit

LD0908134690 Rabat MAP in English 1254 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tunis, Aug. 9-(MAP)—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left here Thursday morning for Cairo to take part in the Arab emergency summit summoned by President Musni Mubarak of Egypt. Klibi Wednesday received the official proposal of Egypt to convene an emergency summit to consider the situation in the Gulf after the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq.

On the other hand, Klibi addressed Arab foreign ministers Wednesday an official copy of the resolution adopted by the League's Council which last Thursday held an emergency meeting on the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq.

The League's Council agreed to refer to the Iraqi invasion issue to Arab heads of state to 'hold an Arab emergency summit to discuss means to reach a negotiated, lasting and acceptable solution by the two concerned parties.'

In a note attached to the copy of the resolution, Klibi expressed hope that Arab countries adopt 'a firm position to face the dangerous situation' adding that the UN Security Council dealt with the Gulf issue owing to the 'inability of Arabs to deal with the crisis in its natural framework, i.e the League's Council, and their inability to hold a limited summit.'

GCC Confirms Sovereignty, Freedom of Action

LD0908191990 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] quarters have confirmed that council members are sovereign states and have absolute freedom to choose the means they deem fit to preserve their security, secure their sovereignty, and protect their national soil. They are states committed to the Arab League Charter and the UN Charter, and their behavior is in harmony with international law and legitimacy. The most important GCC orientation is to resort to negotiations, dialogue, and understanding in solving the outstanding problem, and the non-use of force or the threat of using forces in order to secure gains.

In this context, we have to deal with the developments that have taken place in light of the grave results of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, which is a member country of the GCC, the Arab League, and the United Nations, enjoying a prominent international role and positive behaviour at the Gulf, Arab, and international level.

Arab Leaders Continue To Arrive for Summit

Kuwaiti Amir Al-Sabah

NC0908170690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, who is making a public appearance for the first time since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, arrived at Cairo Airport a short while ago. He was welcomed by President Husni Mubarak. The amir of Kuwait was accorded an official reception.

Iraq's Ramadan, 'Aziz

JN0908153090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, arrived here today to lead the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the emergency Arab summit. He is accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and deputy prime minister.

The deputy prime minister was accorded an official reception. Kamal al-Janzuri, Egyptian deputy prime minister and planning minister, and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo led those who received him.

Al-Janzuri accompanied Taha Yasin Ramadan to the dais, where the the Egyptian and Iraqi national anthems were played. They then reviewed the guard of honor.

UAE President

NC0908122490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1033 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo at noon today to take part in the emergency Arab summit called for by President Husni Mubarak in his statement to the Arab nation yesterday with a view to containing the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis that erupted last week. President Husni Mubarak led those who received Shaykh Zayid.

Al-Asad, 'Arafat, Others

NC0908144490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Arab presidents, kings, and leaders continue to arrive in Cairo to participate in the Arab emergency summit which will convene at the conference center in Nasr City tonight to discuss the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad; Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat; Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi; General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolutionary Council; and the Moroccan prime minister and foreign minister arrived at Cairo Airport this afternoon. [passage omitted]

Saudi King Fahd

NC0908152290 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi king and custodian of the two holy mosques, arrived at Cairo Airport at 1740 today.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the guest, who was accorded an official reception.

Jordan's King Husayn

NC0908153090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1516 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Cairo this afternoon to take part in the emergency Arab summit which will open here later today.

President Mubarak was at the head of the reception committee.

Omani, Bahraini, Algerian Leaders

NC0908160490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Fahr Bin-Taymur, Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, has arrived in Cairo to represent Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman at the Arab emergency summit conference to be held in Cairo this evening.

Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and planning minister, welcomed the Omani official on arrival.

The Omani delegation was accorded an official reception on its arrival at Cairo International Airport.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1533 GMT on 9 August reports: "Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the State of Bahrain, arrived in Cairo this evening to participate in the emergency Arab summit which begins in Cairo later today. President Husni Mubarak was at the head of those who welcomed Shaykh 'Isa upon his arrival at Cairo International Airport. The amir was accorded an official reception."

[At 1540 GMT, the agency reports: "Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this evening to take part in the emergency Arab summit due to open here later today. President Mubarak was at the head of the reception committee."]

Djibouti President

NC0908182890 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon arrived at Cairo Airport a short time ago. Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning, was at hand to receive him. President Gouled was accorded an official reception.

Yemeni President Salih

NC0908192790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1856 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidium of the Yemeni Republic, arrived in Cairo tonight to participate in the activities of the Arab emergency session which will begin in Cairo tomorrow.

The Yemeni president was accorded an official reception.

Somali Foreign Minister

NC1008060990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0046 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Dr. Mohamed Ali Hamud, Somali minister of foreign affairs, arrived here this evening as a representative of Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre to attend the emergency Arab summit that will open in Cairo tomorrow.

Leaders in Cairo To Hold Bilateral Consultations

Summit Opens 10 Aug

NC0908175690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stated that it has been decided to postpone the emergency Arab summit's opening session in Cairo until tomorrow morning, Friday. The arrival of the Arab leaders is expected to be completed by then.

It has been decided that bilateral consultations will be conducted among their majesties and excellencies the kings and presidents who have arrived in Cairo. This will enable them to exchange views on the developments in the Gulf.

Mubarak Meets Kuwait Minister

NC0908123190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak met today with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at the presidential lounge at Cairo International Airport. President Mubarak and Shaykh al-Sabah reviewed the latest developments in the Gulf. The Kuwaiti minister later left for his place of residence and will join the Kuwaiti delegation to the emergency Arab summit to convene at 1900 this evening.

Mubarak Receives Iraq's Ramadan

NC0908191590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1855 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak tonight received Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi

first deputy prime minister and member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, at the Presidential Office in Heliopolis.

President Mubarak's meeting with Taha Yasin Ramadan took place within the framework of the contacts which began among the delegations from Arab states participating in the Arab emergency summit which is to open in Cairo tomorrow, Friday.

The meeting was attended by Nabil Najm, Iraq's ambassador in Cairo, and Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Meets With Ramadan, 'Aziz

JN0908220690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2121 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (INA)—Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met here tonight with Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member, first deputy prime minister, and head of the Iraqi delegation to the emergency Arab summit.

Taha Yasin Ramadan conveyed to Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak the greetings of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. President Mubarak asked Ramadan to convey his greetings to His Excellency President Saddam Husayn.

Mr. Ramadan and President Mubarak discussed the developments in the Arab arena that be discussed by the Arab summit conference, as well as Iraq's view on them.

Ramadan stressed Iraq's position calling for giving priority to effecting a unified Arab position demanding the immediate departure of foreign forces from the Arab territories, so that this would not serve as an Arab cover for an imperialist aggression against Iraq and the implementation of the conspiracy against the Arab nation. He also stressed the Iraqi position calling for solving Arab problems within the Arab family in a most comprehensive and clear manner.

President Mubarak expressed the hope the Arabs will cooperate among themselves to achieve the aspirations of the Arab nation.

The meeting was attended by Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of President Mubarak's office for political affairs, and Nabil Najm, Iraqi ambassador in Cairo.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Ramadan

JN0908203190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (INA)—Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, here this evening.

During the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to his brother Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and stressed the importance of promoting relations between the two fraternal countries.

The first deputy prime minister reviewed the dimensions of the conspiracy Iraq is being subjected to by imperialism under all forms of covers being used as a pretext by the United States to carry out an aggression against Iraq. This is actually occurring now through the presence of U.S. forces on Arab territories. Ramadan said this conspiracy is against the entire Arab nation, and not only Iraq, and that the urgent Arab task now is to remove this foreign presence on Arab territories.

Col. al-Qadhdhafi asked Taha Yasin Ramadan to convey his greetings, as well as his denunciation of foreign interference in domestic Arab affairs, to President Saddam Husayn.

Attending the meeting were Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo.

King Husayn Meets With Ramadan

JN0908222490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2135 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (INA)—His Majesty King Husayn met here today with Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member, first deputy prime minister, and head of the Iraqi delegation to the emergency Arab summit. During the meeting, the consolidation of bilateral relations was stressed.

Taha Yasin Ramadan reviewed the dimensions of the plotting against the Arabs and the dangers of the current stage represented by the presence of imperialist forces on the Arab territory in preparation for launching an aggression against Iraq. Ramadan affirmed the Iraqi stance calling for the need for an Arab rejection of this foreign presence, since the Arab leaders bear a historic responsibility toward the Arab nation and its future.

King Husayn affirmed that the current phase experienced by the Arab nation is witnessing exposed conspirational links threatening pan-Arab security and aimed at obstructing Arab awakening, progress, and solidarity.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and deputy prime minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim.

Mubarak Resumes Meetings

NC1008082590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] This morning President Husni Mubarak resumed his meetings with the Arab kings and presidents taking part in the emergency Arab summit. He met with Syrian

President Hafiz al-Asad; Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution; and Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution; before the emergency Arab summit begins its opening session.

The proceedings of the emergency Arab summit to discuss the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait will start in Cairo today. President Mubarak will inaugurate the summit with an open session in which a number of Arab leaders will speak. A closed session attended by the Arab leaders only will follow.

King Fahd Receives Kuwaiti Amir

LD1008104290 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0948 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] In Cairo this afternoon, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, received His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait.

Al-Asad Meets With Kuwaiti Amir

JN1008100390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has resumed his meetings with Arab leaders in Cairo. At 1100 today, he received His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait. Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting. Shaykh al-Sabah reviewed the developments in Kuwait and the consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwaiti territory. The talks dealt with the emergency Arab summit and contacts taking place on the sidelines to help fulfill the objectives for which the summit was called.

King Husayn Meets Arab Leaders

JN1008101190 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] As soon as he arrived in Cairo yesterday evening, His Majesty King Husayn began contacts with his brother Arab leaders to exchange views on the developments in the Arab Gulf. His majesty visited Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. He also received in his place of residence Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member, first deputy prime minister, and head of the Iraqi delegation to the summit. The meetings were attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, and the deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Tunis Foreign Ministry Calls for Summit Delay

Says Preparation Time Needed

LD0908172190 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Attention is being directed toward the Gulf region, which has been witnessing a dangerous escalation for a week, and Tunisia is still following with concern and anxiety the developments of events in that region, and is making all its efforts to contain the crisis with peaceful means affirming its eagerness for it to be solved within the Arab house.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued the following communiques:

The Tunisian Government, which is following with great concern and anxiety the development of the situation in the Gulf region, reiterates its attachment to the stance it announced in an earlier communique dated 3 August 1990 calling for the solution of the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait with peaceful means in accordance with the Arab League Charter, for confining efforts within the framework of the League, and for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces in order to make this solution possible. It also believes that any foreign intervention in the present issue encompasses a great danger considering that it constitutes a threat of explosion in the region. The Arab League has previously rejected it in its ministerial council's resolution on 3 August 1990.

Out of its eagerness to reach an Arab solution, the Tunisian Government has been calling, since 7 August 1990, on the Arab League secretary general to call for the convening of an Arab emergency summit in order to deal with the origin of the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait, after consultations with the main concerned parties for the sake of efficiency. Despite the latest developments, it still believes the Arab solution is possible on the condition a respite is made available in order to hold the preparatory contacts to crystallize the stance in the light of the latest developments. For these reasons, Tunisia has called for the postponement of the summit date for at least two days in order to secure for it ampler conditions for success.

Summit Postponed Until 10 Aug

NC0908164890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1628 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—A source close to the chairman of the Arab summit conference has stated that the emergency Arab summit conference will begin tomorrow, Friday. The source said that the kings and heads of delegations taking part in the conference will hold meetings and consultations today. They will gather this evening at a dinner banquet which President Husni Mubarak will give in their honor. Some of the delegations are expected to arrive at a late hour tonight.

Answering a question about Tunisia's request to postpone the conference for two days, the source expressed surprise in view of the delicate situation through which the Arab nation is passing, and in view of the fact that Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali contacted President Mubarak last night and said nothing to him about postponing the conference.

Iraq Objects to Kuwaiti Amir's Participation

JN0908205190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] The emergency Arab summit in Cairo is still facing problems. According to informed Egyptian sources, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan has informed the Arab League General Secretariat that he refuses to take part in a summit in which Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah or any officials of the recently toppled Kuwaiti government take part. This is based on the fact that the State of Kuwait, according to the Iraqi interpretation, has become part of Iraq in accordance with the union agreement declared yesterday.

Meanwhile, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received the Iraqi deputy prime minister this evening. Usamah al-Baz, first secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, attended the meeting. Discussions dealt with ways to surmount the obstacles facing the convocation of the summit and to guarantee the participation of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti sides. During his meeting with President Mubarak, Taha Yasin Ramadan declared that the issue of Kuwaiti-Iraqi unity is the internal affair of the two parties. He said his country is in danger of foreign invasion through the support of certain Arab parties. According to an informed Iraqi source, Ramadan said that it is important that the summit discuss the dimensions and dangers of the foreign military and economic blockade now imposed on Iraq. The sources did not disclose the results reached at the meeting in this connection. However, they stated that efforts are under way to guarantee the participation of Iraq and Kuwait in the summit.

Iraqi Refusal Causes Delay

NC1008055990 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Have the Arabs begun to disagree before they met and have the Kuwaiti-Saudi-Iraqi military combat lines been transferred to the emergency summit in Cairo, where a political combat line has been drawn up among the Arab delegations participating in the summit activities?

The Arab kings and presidents who arrived in Cairo yesterday did not meet because of a problem which arose in the last quarter of an hour and which threatens to stop the conference before it starts. The problem is one of protocol in form, but it is political in essence. Iraqi delegation leader Taha Yasin Ramadan declared that he refuses to participate in a summit in which Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah or any other Kuwaiti official participates because Kuwait became a part of Iraq after the merger agreement between the two countries.

Tariq 'Aziz Gives News Conference

NC1008093590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0910 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 10 Aug (MENA)—Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has asserted that Iraq can never ignore the Arab summit being held in Cairo in view of the U.S. threat to Iraq. He recalled that the U.S. forces came to the region a few days ago.

At a press conference he held this morning, 'Aziz said: We came as the head of a high level delegation led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, to take part in the summit because, under the circumstances, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn could not leave his country to attend in person and take part in the negotiations with his friendly and fraternal Arab leaders.

Tariq 'Aziz added: We heard about an invitation for this summit meeting, but we were not consulted about it earlier. However, he added, we came because it is an Arab meeting and because we are a responsible party in the Arab world.

He explained that President Saddam Husayn wanted to attend in person and discuss the situation with Arab leaders. However, the circumstances prevented him from leaving his country. Anyway, he continued, a high-level delegation is representing him.

'Aziz pointed out that Iraq welcomes the Arab efforts, "the Arab solution," or Arab negotiations on the issue since the outbreak of the crisis. He stressed that any issue to be raised within the Arab household must be discussed within the Arab household on the basis of pan-Arab relations and commitments.

At the press conference, Tariq 'Aziz said: We have been seriously considering the convocation of an Arab minisummit for several days. King Husayn of Jordan mentioned that in his statement. The minisummit was supposed to be held in Jeddah last Sunday and to include Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Yemen, and Egypt. The goal was to discuss the situation. However, the summit was not held and we had not learned or been notified of the causes until now.

He added: We were ready for that summit and President Saddam and King Husayn discussed the issue in an attempt to decide on the action to be taken. However, U.S. forces were invited into the region and a decision was made in this connection. The U.S. forces came to the area within a few hours and then there was an invitation to this Arab summit. Tariq 'Aziz asked what that might mean. He asked, does it mean that we will try to find an Arab settlement of the problem after the U.S. intervention in the region with all its forces? Such things are rare and unprecedented in the history of the Arab nation.

'Aziz added: We believe that the first step in convening this summit to rescue the credibility of an Arab solution, and if we are serious in negotiations to find an Arab solution, is to call for an immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from the region. The goal is to enable Arabs to discuss their own affairs freely.

Tariq 'Aziz said: There is a second point I want to make, and on which we have not commented directly for fear of

a misunderstanding. It is becoming clearer day after day that certain parties insist on wrongly interpreting this point. It has been said that President Saddam Husayn had promised an Arab leader that no military action would be taken against the previous Kuwaiti regime. This did not happen, he stressed. The Iraqi president had literally said that he would not take military action against the Kuwaiti regime until the Jeddah summit was held, 'Aziz said, adding: The meeting was held on July 31. On 1 August the meeting was resumed between the Iraqi Vice President 'Izzah Ibrahim and [Kuwaiti Heir Apparent] Sa'd al-'Abdallah, who showed no desire to solve the problem.

'Aziz noted that Saudi officials are well aware of this fact and that they were surprised. The Saudis told us that the Kuwaitis are not prepared to reach a solution or present an acceptable settlement, 'Aziz said.

Tariq 'Aziz said the military action was taken one day later. Nevertheless, President Saddam was still committed to his promise. There were certain representations given of the misunderstanding of President Saddam's talks with Arab leaders, and certain measures were taken on the basis of these scenarios. Now they are saying that there is an Iraqi threat to Saudi Arabia. No one cared to explain to us why such a threat would be there, 'Aziz said, adding: When did we say that we had such a problem with Saudi Arabia that it could become a target for our threats? Did we say that years, months, or days ago, he asked.

'Aziz emphasized that Iraq's relations with Saudi Arabia are excellent and that President Saddam's relations with King Fahd has been the best that could be between leaders. Why then should Iraq threaten Saudi Arabia? he asked.

Tariq 'Aziz said there are people who say that the Iraqi troops in Kuwait pose a threat to Saudi Arabia. However, he noted, we had defined borders with Saudi Arabia long before the unity was declared between Iraq and Kuwait. These borders extend for hundreds of kilometers, without taking into account the new borders created after the unity with Kuwait. Therefore, he stressed, we do not need Kuwait's borders with Saudi Arabia to use as a starting point for threatening Saudi Arabia. He asserted that these allegations are a covert excuse to invite U.S. forces into the region.

'Aziz said: If anyone wishes to invite foreign forces into the region, this is his own business. However, he has no right to say that he invited them because of an alleged Iraqi threat, because we threaten no one. He added that Kuwait is a special case, as he had noted before. Any truthful historian or experienced politician knows that the problem between Iraq and Kuwait goes back a long way. The Iraqi royal regime in 1920's—which was one of the closest allies of the Western powers, including the United States—had never recognized Kuwait as independent from Iraq. Kuwait had always been seen by that royal regime as an indivisible part of Iraq, he said. In Egypt they view Alexandria as an indivisible part of Egypt and in Syria they talk of Allepo as an indivisible part of Syria, he explained.

'Aziz said: Until the 1950's the Iraqi royal regime insisted that Kuwait was an indivisible part of Iraq and the Iraqi state. With the 1958 unity between Iraq and Jordan—and King Husayn is alive and witnessed these events—both Kuwait and Iraq insisted that Kuwait remains part of this unity within the Iraqi state. However, the British insisted that Kuwait be separated from Iraq.

This is modern history. The Iraqi republic of 1958 did not recognize Kuwait as a state. 'Abd-al-Karim Qasim wanted to return Kuwait to its mother state and failed. Only our government, under President Saddam Husayn's leadership, could deal on a brotherly basis with former Kuwaiti rulers. We wanted to establish Arab relations on the basis of brotherhood and on a new basis to prepare for the future of the Arab nation and take Arab national security into account. However, they conspired against Iraq deliberately, in full collaboration with the United States and Israel. They wanted to weaken and impoverish Iraq and shake its stability. This is an act of war and it is not the first time we say this.

Summit To Hold Open Session, Leaders To Speak

NC0908203790 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] President Husni Mubarak will open the emergency Arab summit in an open session tomorrow morning. At this session several Arab leaders will deliver speeches. This will be followed by a closed session.

Al-Sharif on Arab Response to Summit Call, Agenda

NC0908212390 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] [Egyptian] Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stated that tomorrow, Friday, has been set as the date for the emergency summit's opening session, in order to provide an opportunity for all the Arab leaders to participate. This will also provide an opportunity for bilateral consultations to take place during the meetings on the sidelines now being held among the Arab leaders. These consultations will continue through a working dinner that President Mubarak will hold for the Arab leaders. The meetings will provide an opportunity for further consultations among the leaders about the serious situation which the emergency summit is being held to discuss.

The information minister declared that President Mubarak is being very careful to provide an Arab umbrella in order to safeguard the Arab nation's weight, influence, and image before the whole world.

Safwat al-Sharif pointed out that the Arab nation's immediate response to President Mubarak's call to convene an emergency Arab summit in Cairo demonstrates its vigilance. He added that the nation is participating in

this summit in appreciation of the gravity of the situation and its effects. This is the largest gathering of Arab leaders that has taken place at such short notice and it was arranged less than 24 hours after President Mubarak called for an emergency summit, he asserted.

Al-Sharif noted that brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, and the Lebanese president arrived on the same day. He added that Arab kings and presidents continued to arrive today in a clear desire to ensure full attendance at this meeting.

The information minister added that the Egyptian stand is clear and so is the Arab stand. He noted that it can be said that this stand is accepted by a large majority, and explained that it focuses on the need for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from fraternal Kuwait and the restoration of the situation to what it was before 1 August. It also calls for restoring Kuwait's legitimate government and using dialogue as a method of conducting affairs among brothers.

Al-Sharif concluded by announcing that the summit's agenda has one issue which is the basis of President Mubarak's call for convening this summit—dealing with the grave situation resulting from the Iraq forces' occupation of Kuwait.

Summit Draft Solution to Gulf Crisis Outlined

NC1008053490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0335 GMT 10 Aug 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Whole World Is Awaiting the Results of the Cairo Summit," AL-AHRAM writes that since yesterday morning Arab and world attention has been focused on Cairo, which was the scene of extensive Arab political activity at the highest level aimed at finding a just solution to the crisis resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and preparing the groundwork for the emergency summit meetings.

The summit will discuss a draft solution to the crisis that calls for withdrawing Iraqi troops from Kuwait, restoring legitimacy and order there, compensating Kuwait for the damages incurred as a result of the invasion, starting negotiations between the two sides to settle the outstanding problems, and forming an Arab disengagement force between the two sides.

Iraq, Kuwait Delegations Attend Summit Opening

JN1008110990 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Excerpts] The emergency Arab summit conference opened in Cairo at 1230 today. The Iraqi and Kuwaiti delegations are participating in it. [passage omitted]

Last night, President Husni Mubarak received the Iraqi deputy prime minister and discussed with him the way Iraq can participate in the conference alongside Kuwait. The talks with the Iraqi delegation were completed this morning. The Iraqi delegation asked that the subject of foreign intervention in the Arab region be discussed and Saudi Arabia be condemned for allowing foreign forces to be deployed in its territory with the aim of threatening the security and safety of Iraq and Kuwait. Today's Arab efforts succeeded in reaching an agreement with the Iraqi delegation giving Iraq the right to raise the issue of foreign intervention in the Arab region while stressing the summiteers' resolve to issue a resolution rejecting foreign intervention and declaring the unity of the Arab nation in the quest to resolve the Kuwaiti-Iraqi problem within the framework of the one Arab family. The sources did not disclose the other clauses on which agreement was reached—clauses that were primarily responsible for the Iraqi delegation's participation in the presence of the Kuwaiti delegation at the summit meetings. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

Mufti Sanctions Killing of U.S. Supporters

JN0908180990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, 9 Aug (INA)—Dr. Colonel Nadir al-Tamimi, assistant mufti of the Palestine National Liberation Army [PNLA], has issued a religious edict ruling that he who supports the Americans and Westerners, enemies of God, and takes part in combat against Muslims in Iraq will be apostate and that the shedding of his blood will be sanctioned.

This came in a religious edict issued by the assistant mufti of the PNLA here today. The following is the text of the religious edict:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. The state of Palestine, the PLO, the Religious Rulings Department.

A religious edict from Dr. Col. Nadir al-Tamimi to all Muslims everywhere: He who supports the Americans and Westerners, enemies of God, and takes part in combat against Muslims in Iraq will be an apostate, and the shedding of his blood will be sanctioned in accordance with the Koranic verse: "And he amongst you that turns to them for friendship is of them." [part of Koranic verse]

If the West attacks Iraq, jihad becomes a duty to be performed by all Muslims, including women, who will be allowed to head for jihad without obtaining the permission of husbands; children, who will be allowed to engage in jihad without seeking the permission of fathers; and slaves,who will be allowed to take part in combat without obtaining the permission of their masters, as jurisconsults were unanimous on this.

God is great and victory is for Muslims.

[Signed] Assistant mufti of the PNLA, Col. Nadir As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi

Algeria

Commentary Opposes Freezing Kuwait, Iraq Assets

LD0708180490 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Without waiting for the results of this plan [Libyan-PLO peace plan for the Gulf] and all the Arab consultations on the subject, the West, led by the United States, is continuing its arm waving. That the international community should decide not to trade with Iraq is fair enough: in the final analysis this is a principled position, but which would be better, after all, if it were applied each time one country is invaded by another. Which, let us say in passing, has not always been the case. For example, take the United States, when they invaded tiny Panama and captured its president, Noriega.

But for the West, in addition to freezing the assets of two countries, solely because they are Arab and Muslim, that, you will agree, is a bit strong. You do not respond to a violation of international law with an act of highway robbery, taking hostage the bread of the children of that country. For the money of the Arabs does indeeed belong to the children of the Arabs, and to take it hostage is to allow them to die a bit more, not counting the fact that meanwhile, this money could very well be used to supply weapons to the Zionists to fire at the children of the intifidah.

That one should want to enforce the internationally recognized law on the integrity of states, fair enough: The international community has understood this, and has stressed this, in particular with its vote in the United Nations. But to use this as a pretext to embark on a crusade belonging to a different age to subjugate the Arab and Muslim world further, that is a limit that we must think must not be overstepped. (?This is what we think in the current case) Indeed, why did George Bush pronounce those words the day before yesterday which go to the very bounds of scorn for an Arab solution, saying that a highly placed Arab official had assured him that an Arab settlement of the Kuwaiti question would come about speedily, that is to say, within 48 hours. But George Bush knows very well that (?in) a problem such as this, that is a dream, but time needs (?time). Look at Cambodia, and before that Vietnam, which the Americans are very familiar with, incidentally, since they were bogged down for many long, long years. In a word, what is at stake is the well understood sovereignty of Kuwait, and not the further weakening of the Arab world, whether financially, militarily, or politically.

Parties Comment on Assembly Dissolution

LD0408?03390 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] The reactions of the parties concerning the early legislative elections: Tonight we present to you the reactions of the Liberal Social Party and the Democratic Social Party/Hamid Khodja wing.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified Liberal Social Party official] The dissolution of the National People's Assembly is among the prerogatives of the president of the republic. I think he is right, but it is also right for the National People's Assembly to be dissolved when it would have accomplished its mission at the end of its term in 1992. Whatever the conditions and the cost, the Liberal Social Party will be present in these elections. We only regret that this dissolution is made with such haste, and the lack of consultation with other parties. We also heard of pressures, which we regret, and the origin and destination of these pressures. If the National People's Assembly is dissolved due to the pressure of a single party, then I think that the next assembly will fail and will create problems which Algeria (?still suffers from). This is what we did not like, and this is why we wanted things to follow their normal course.

[Unidentified Democratic Social Party official] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: The announcement of the dissolution of the National People's Assembly by the president of the republic is a matter of interest to all citizens. It puts an end to a situation marked by political ambiguity and other pressures.

After the decision to pardon politicians, the political map of the country becomes clearer and allows every party to face the new situation. As for the Democratic Social Party, it continues in its consolidation of the democratic march by entering with the other parties in the next legislative elections. [end recording]

Arab Islamic Forces Movement Registered

LD0408230290 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] In implementation of the march of democracy and reforms in our country, the Movement of Arab Islamic Forces [Harakatu al-Quwa al-Arabiyyah al-Islamiyyah] was licenced today by the Interior Ministry. The movement, which lodged its file to be licenced on 4 June, is considered the 26th party licenced according to the February 1989 Constitution. The headquarters of the party are in G'bila in (El Ouad) Province. The file of the Arab Islamic Rally [al-Tajammu' al-Arabi al-Islami] remains the only file still being examined by the Interior Ministry.

Splinter Group Founds Algerian Liberal Party

LD0808040590 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Two founding members of the Social Liberal Party announced today their resignation and the founding of a new party: the Algerian Liberal Party [Al-Hizb al-Libirali al-Jazai'ri]. The two justified their resignation by citing a lack of dialogue and meetings among members of the constituent council in charge of establishing and running party structures. This is Ahmed

Khalil, the party secretary general's practice. The aim is to hold an immediate congress, the two said.

Egypt

Mubarak Briefs Opposition Leaders on Developments

NC0808190590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] President Husni Mubarak met this afternoon with leaders of the Egyptian opposition parties. The meeting was attended by Consultative Council Speaker Dr. Mustafa Kamal Hilmi; Dr. Yusuf Wali, secretary general of the National Democratic Party [NDP]; and Safwat al-Sharif, assistant NDP secretary general. Leaders of al-Wafd, the Socialist Liberal Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the National Progressive Unionist Party, Misr al-Fatah [Young Egypt], and the Democratic Unionist Party were at the meeting.

Following the meeting, Safwat al-Sharif said that President Mubarak explained all the efforts and contacts he had made since the start of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti dispute. The president also discussed the details of the consultations with President Saddam Husayn and the amir of Kuwait to resolve the problems between the two countries through the dialogue in Jeddah and the ensuing rapid deterioration in the situation. President Mubarak also briefed the conferees on Egypt's intensive contacts to contain the crisis within the Arab framework. He said that President Mubarak underlined his call to Arab presidents and leaders to hold an immediate extraordinary summit within the next 24 hours and Cairo's willingness to host such a summit. The president also reviewed the continuing Arab efforts to solve the problem under the Arab umbrella that will protect the Arab nation from the dangers of foreign intervention to resolve a dispute between two fraternal countries.

Leaders of the Egyptian opposition parties declared their support for all the steps taken by President Mubarak. They also declared their support for holding an extraordinary Arab summit, stressing the importance of holding it within the next few hours.

On behalf of his colleagues and the entire Arab nation, Ibrahim Shukri [Socialist Labor Party leader] appealed to President Saddam Husayn to appreciate the situation, since all issues can be settled.

Mustafa Kamil Murad, Socialist Liberal Party leader, said: The president told us that there are now strong efforts to hold an extraordinary Arab summit to contain the crisis. Solving the problem within the framework of the Arab League or the Arab countries and without foreign intervention is the ideal solution. He expressed the hope that this summit will be held and that it will reach a solution satisfactory to all parties.

Ruling Party Calls for Iraqi Withdrawal 5 Aug

NC0508183690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1704 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA)—The National Democratic Party's Arab Affairs Committee has called on Iraq to withdraw immediately from Kuwait and stop changing the system of government in the fraternal state of Kuwait.

In a statement today, the committee emphasized its support for President Husni Mubarak's efforts to halt the deterioration in the situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

The following is the text of the statement:

While following with extreme concern the regrettable bloody events resulting from the Iraqi forces' invasion of Kuwait—a Muslim Arab country—the Arab Affairs Committee of the National Democratic Party under the chairmanship of Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah, affirms that this event undermines the credibility of joint Arab action, leaves the door wide open for foreign intervention, and subverts the region's security and stability. This invasion took place at a time when we are in dire need of mending the rift and uniting and coordinating joint Arab action.

The committee emphasizes the three principles of the Egyptian stand: That Iraq withdraw its forces from Kuwaiti territory immediately and without delay, refrain from attempting to change the system of government in Kuwait by force and leave Kuwaiti internal affairs to the Kuwaiti people, and adopt the method of dialogue and negotiations to resolve the dispute between the two fraternal countries.

The committee believes that the Arab nation is now facing a real test. If the Arab efforts fail to contain this crisis and to resolve it within an Arab framework as soon as possible, that would undermine the credibility of united Arab action before the world and weaken its support for our causes.

On this basis, the committee supports all the sincere efforts President Husni Mubarak is exerting with his Arab brothers to halt the deterioration of the sitaution, contain the crisis, and bring about the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Socialists Reject 'Any Aggression' Against Iraq

JN0808154990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA)—The Egyptian Liberal [Socialist] Party has announced its rejection and resolute confrontation of any aggression against the Arab people in Iraq.

In a cable to President Saddam Husayn, the party denounced the regrettable stand of some Arab regimes that have harmed Iraq. It also stressed its rejection of the

UN Security Council resolution imposing economic sanctions on the Arab people in Iraq. The following is the text of the cable:

His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, may God's peace and blessings be upon you. Your courage, loftiness, and steadfastness, backed by your heroic people, in confronting the U.S. hegemony over the Gulf region and the world, its east and west, have astonished the enemies before friends. In light of this, we emphasize the following:

First: Our rejection and confrontation of any foreign interference in the affairs of the Arab family.

Second: Our rejection of brandishing and directing Arab weapons against Arabs.

Third: Our resolute confrontation of any aggression against our people in Iraq.

Fourth: Our condemnation of the regrettable stand of some Arab regimes that have harmed Iraq.

Fifth: Our rejection of the UN Security Council resolution imposing economic sanctions on our Arab people in Iraq.

President, through this historic message, we have the honor to remind our Arab nation that America, which is addicted to the violation of human rights; killed the Japanese people with atomic bombs; annihilated the Vietnamese people; controlled and exploited the Arab Gulf peoples; and occupied Panama and arrested its president without heeding world peoples' appeals, is now claiming to support legitimacy, while ignoring its continuous support for Israeli piracy in the Arab region, which completed its crimes by attacking the nuclear reactor in Iraq. Where is this U.S. legitimacy and human rights when it attacked our Arab people in Libya with planes and missiles? Where is the U.S. regard for human rights and its Security Council when Palestinians are being murdered and Lebanese are being killed? Where does U.S. legitimacy and its world stand regarding the conspiracy of the Soviet Jews' immigration and settlement to establish Greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates?

We are writing in history, with regret, that it is a disgrace for some Arab leaders and politicians to agree with Israeli and U.S. views to harm our Arab people in steadfast Iraq against the face of subservience and hegemony. We wonder: Are Israel and the United States concerned about our people in Kuwait at a time when they are killing our Arab people in Lebanon and Palestine, whose Arabism is not less than that of the Kuwaiti people? The point, Mr. President, is that you have a strong will and the only military power capable of liberating Palestine from Zionist occupation, that you are the only power capable of liberating the Arabian Gulf from foreign subservience, domination, and exploitation, and that you are a leader who is qualified to unify the scattered Arab strength to establish a great Arab nation.

Therefore, we appeal to our Arab nation to take up arms to defend its dignity, interests, and oil against foreign domination.

President Saddam Husayn: How oft, by God's will, hath a small force vanquished a big one? God is with those who steadfastly persevere. [Koranic verse]

Be assured that our hearts, minds, and arms are with you, and we beseech God to inspire your wisdom and guide your steps. May God grant you success. Peace be upon you.

Press, Radio Comment on Invasion Consequences

AL-AHRAM Condemns 'Ugly Deed'

JN0608125290 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Aug 90 pp 1, 5

[Article by Chief Editor Ibrahim Nafi' "It is Not With Soldiers' Boots That We Determine the Future of Nations"]

[Text] The Arab World is going through a very dark, sad, and shameful period. Bullets have become the language of dialogue between brothers in blood, religion, and Arabism. Aggression on a fraternal state's territory, people, honor, and dignity has become the solution and salvation.

I now ask your permission to go back to the question I put here the day before yesterday about the one who opened the door of hell on the Arab nation under the present dangerous circumstances which are causing such great pain and sorrow.

I have detected some kind of clandestine coordination to preoccupy and isolate Egypt from a very serious crime that is being committed behind all eyes and backs, whether by accusing Egypt of being a puppet in the hands of the Americans or by discrediting it in connection with incidents that have taken place in the past.

At any rate, this is not our topic today. My question is still as follows: In whose interest was the door of hell opened wide on the Arab nation at this time in particular?

The Iraqi invasion of the territory of fraternal Kuwait is fully rejectable and condemnable by all standards, regardless of the motives behind it and regardless of the national, pan-Arab, and ideological claims used to justify it.

We say no to Iraq, no to crushing Arab dignity, no to shedding Arab blood, and no to the coercion of the Arab peoples!

Has anyone realized how many grave incidents and dangers we will have to face as a result of this door to hell opening wide on the Arab nation?

1. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has created a very dangerous situation in our region and in the whole world. The West will definitely not remain indifferent with regard to its strategic interests and oil requirements.

2. The invasion has given Israel the excuse to throw its weight around, especially at home, such as directing its anger against the Palestinians. It is as if by its action Iraq has put the matches in Israel's hand and told it to do what it liked to achieve its insatiable ambitions in this region.

3. No one knows why and in whose interest Iraq has used its forces to invade a neighboring Arab state, when it is already the target of a hostile international campaign caused by its previous policies and statements. Despite this, the Egyptian press has stood by Iraq against foreign threats. Iraq knows that the world public will attack it, not just on television and in the press, but also in all Western banks in Europe and the United States with freezes on both Iraqi and Kuwaiti assets, so that Iraq will not be able to withdraw a single dollar!!

Iraq will soon have to face the entire international community by itself for this ugly deed it has commited, because regardless of how close the friendship, we will never accept what happened and is happening. The Security Council has already issued a resolution stipulating the immediate and obligatory withdrawal of the invading Iraqi troops from Kuwaiti territory.

If Iraq withdraws, it would take a huge load off the chests of the Arabs that has been weighing on them and on the whole world. If it does not withdraw, international organizations will soon decide on sanctions against it. Some of these will be military measures, such as the formation of an international force in which the United States would definitely participate, as well as other European countries, to oversee the withdrawal process under the auspices of the United Nations as stated in Article 7 of its charter. Even if rapid military intervention does not take place, a military siege awaits Iraq. And so does a freeze on its assets and money in foreign banks.

We look back and wonder: In whose interest is all this? How have we benefited from opening this window to hell with our own hands, only to be scorched by its fire and evil?

For whose benefit do we point Arab guns at Arab chests to occupy land and shed blood, but not for their defense or the defense of their homeland's security?

What happened on this black day for all Arabs has thrown the Arabs into a crisis from which only God can free them. It has placed all Arab institutions, groupings, and councils, whether the Gulf Cooperation Council or the Arab Cooperation Council, as well as the Arab League, in a very dangerous crisis—in fact, to be very honest, it has imperiled them all.

We look around us while we are all caught in the maelstrom of the Iraqi crisis, to find that salvation is coming from others and from faraway countries, from international, non-Arab organizations—a crisis we have created with our own hands for others to intervene in and save us from.

The UN Security Council is diverting the course of events and changing the balance in an Arab affair. We have reached the point where we sit and wait for a solution from abroad while having no solution or course of action of our own.

In whose interest, dear Arabs, do we give a foreign country the key to action in our region? As long as we invade a fraternal country overnight, why shouldn't others do so as well?

Here I mean that Israel or Iran might take action. The arena has become an open field, a free-for-all.

Let us allow the voice of reason to prevail over emotional outbursts, nervous tensions, outmoded slogans, and rantings about pan-Arabism, patriotism, and nationalism. All of these are merely dust in the wind and chatter, as the Gulf states would say. By opting for the military alternative, Iraq is raising a dangerous precedent in Arab history and in relations between the Arab countries. Out of our pan-Arab beliefs, we strongly and decisively demand that this not be repeated in the future. It sets a very dangerous precedent—a military solution for any Arab crisis among neighbors, irrespective of size, and a rejection of the peace plan through negotiations, whether bilateral or in groups, which is what we Arabs have thrived on throughout our entire history.

We have opted for the course of peaceful coexistence—a slogan we adopted among the Arab countries. Now Iraq is deviating from us, and taking a course totally contrary to what we already know but have not practiced.

After what Iraq has done, it will not be surprising for us to hear that Israel is confronting the Palestinian intifadah with more blood and ugliness and that it is killing, rendering people homeless, and expelling them with the excuse that as long as this is the case among the Arabs themselves, what do they expect from us?

Perhaps I would not be drowning in a sea of pessimism if I say that this sad scenario, which has made the whole Arab nation cry—and I mean the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait—has put an end to a phase that was teeming with cordiality, solidarity, Arab accord, and agreement among all Arab sides. Even if some described it as a fragile accord, it was nevertheless enough to blow some sweet winds on the Arab boat which held us all.

The feet of soldiers are creating a new reality in our Arab life, a reality which wants to change and rearrange the map of the Arab region as it wishes—by force of arms. This is completely rejected by us and the entire world.

How much I have wished not to repeat what the English author Bernard Shaw said: "The soldiers' feet do not plan the future of nations."

With pain, I say to President Saddam Husayn: This is neither the solution nor the means. Soldiers, bullets, and occupation do not resolve a crisis or determine the destiny of an entire nation, the Arab nation.

Some may wonder: What did we do before the disaster and before the very sad day that has fallen on the Arab nation?

I say that we have not stood by idly, watching things but not making a move until what had happened happened, and until catastrophe fell on us all. Never. All sincere

people on the Arab arena have tried. President Husni Mubarak tried. The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, tried. King Husayn of Jordan tried. They all tried until the last moment and until now—on the negotiating table and through visits and meetings and personal and phone contacts. No one has failed to carry out his duty, and the sincere people did not sit back until the new invasion took them by surprise with its steel and fire, until the electric shock hit them all. No one expected evil, betrayal, and murder to come from what was thought to be a safe place.

However, the leaders quickly restrained themselves and began efforts after the invasion to contain the situation. Extensive contacts were held with President Mubarak in Cairo and with other sides in the world's capitals, including Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and U.S. President George Bush, in an effort to confine the differences to the members of the Arab family and to prevent any attempt to internationalize the crisis, although an invasion of one state by another naturally leads to such an internationalization, which will plunge the Arabs into an international whirlpool that we are not prepared to deal with.

We wonder: Who will think about the right of a state—which used tanks, oppression, and guns—to destroy the sovereignty, security, and dignity of another country?

What has happened is an Arab setback which may be more serious than that of 1967. The difference is that the sides that opened fire in 1967 were Israel and those behind it, but the side that opened fire yesterday, opened all wounds, and renewed the pain is an Arab like us in blood, doctrine, language, religion, Arabism, and fate!

Any differences between two neighboring, fraternal Arab countries should be resolved through negotiations, dialogue, and bilateral contacts. If this is impossible, they should resort to the Arab family to complain, or at least go to the group which we have formed, in whose name we chanted slogans, and over which we burned incense.

If intentions and purposes are good, the solution is there. We will not import it as we import everything else, because the way to a solution is well known. How did we lose dialogue and consultations?

We were surprised when an Arab state, which is a member of the Arab League and a member of the Arab Cooperation Council, drew up a plan under the cover of darkness to completely devour another state without telling any one about that plan. When the Arabs woke up next morning, they found that the tanks and guns had decided the situation.

What a nightmare this is! Arab blood is being shed. This is a disgrace to the Arab nation. Eyes are shedding tears and hearts are bleeding. By God, we are sad...sad. [ellipses as published])

Arabs in 'Unenviable' Position

NC0608143790 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Bahiy-al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "A Critical Position and a Dark Future"]

[Text] Iraq has succeeded in putting itself and all Arab countries in an unenviable position. It has been caught red-handed invading a fraternal Arab country which until few months ago supported it in its war with Iran. Thus it is accused of committing an unjust aggression. This gives others the excuse to use the same means against the Arabs. Israel, and Iran too, covet our territories and since aggression has become the tool for settling crises and since the region has become a jungle, then let the strong attack the weak and let the legal status of states be violated for the sake of few billion dollars.

Because of Iraq, the Arabs are accused of talking about peace while harboring hostile intentions toward each other in their hearts and consequently harboring enmity toward others. Another accusation leveled against the Arabs is that all the slogans about pan-Arabism, solidarity, fraternity, shared fate, and the like are nothing more than empty words that mask all sorts of hostile intentions. The world is now looking at us with pity and regret.

The odd point is that those who are stabbing at the heart of the Arab nation's pride are the ones who are the most capable of deep political analysis and of learning lessons from the setbacks of the past. However, they choose the worst options when they face the test of dealing with crises. It is as if the correct interpretation of events is one thing and dealing with reality something else entirely.

All these people know that the Arab nation is experiencing the most dangerous moments in its existence. The Palestinian problem is going through a severe crisis because of the stands of the Palestinians themselves and those who are lying in wait for it. As for the Lebanese crisis, God alone knows how it will end. The conflict in the Western Sahara has become a chronic problem. The situation in southern Sudan is difficult to solve. This is in addition to the economic, social, democratic, technological, and security crises, all of which need superhuman efforts to overcome.

What makes these crises in all their complexity even more dangerous is that they are taking place on the verge of a new era that it seething with changes. Yesterday's friends who stood beside the Arabs are now in need of somebody to stand beside them. Beliefs, ideologies, and international relationships which prevailed only just few months ago have completely changed and nothing has remained the same.

President Mubarak was being farsighted when he said at the extraordinary Casablanca summit while analyzing the changes: The Arab nation should not be isolated from these radical changes toward building a new world. With its vast material resources and huge scientific

capability, this nation must have an influential economic, political, social, and cultural role in the map of this new world. The Arab nation must also avoid the experience of lost time and opportunities from which it has long sufferred so that it does not miss the train.

Amid all the new international conditions and their complications, Iraq invaded Kuwait and set up a puppet government—and no one knows where it came from or how it is exercising its duties—without Iraq asking itself this question: Will the Arab countries accept this aggression against Kuwait? Will they accept the toppling of the legitimate government of a fraternal country just because there are border, or oil, or financial disputes? The more important question is: What will the situation be if Iraq faces a retaliatory blow from an international party which believes that its interests or commitments require it to do so?

The situation is now reaching the boiling point. Any foreign intervention will place the Arab nation in a critical and sensitive position and will subject many of the accepted Arab axioms—such as solidarity, Arab nationalism, and joint defense—to collapse with all the despair that this would entail for the Arab nation. We do not exaggerate when we say that the coming days will define the Arab position on the world map for generations to come.

Saddam Makes 'Same Mistake' as Shah

NC0608201890 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Interview with 'Abduh Mubashir, assistant editor of AL-AHRAM, by Bahiy-al-Din Shu'ayb, carried within the "Talking Newsreel" program]

[Excerpts] [Shu'ayb] When Iraq closed one of the pipelines that carries its oil through Turkish territory and greatly reduced the flow of oil through the other one, it knew that this would cause difficulties and an economic crisis in these difficult conditions. Has Iraq taken this measure to forestall a Western-Turkish measure? Did it plan to close the pipeline through Turkey since the first moments of its invasion of Kuwait in order to forestall Western economic sanctions?

[Mubashir] It was to be expected. Taha Yasin Ramadan, the deputy Iraqi prime minister and a very senior official, visited Ankara to convince Turkish officials not to join in imposing sanctions against Iraq. The oil pipeline from Iraq to the Mediterranean Sea which passes through Turkey carries around 1.6 million barrels daily and Turkey gets $300 million annually in return. [passage omitted]

[Shu'ayb] Did not the Iraqi Government take the possibility of economic sanctions into consideration when it invaded Kuwait?

[Mubashir] I would not be speaking recklessly if I said that the Iraqi leadership certainly took this into account. But it also considered that Turkey stands to lose $300 million annually, something that cannot be sacrificed by a government whose economy is not prospering and who is having economic crises. The Iraqi Government also calculated that Saudi Arabia will not close the pipeline that passes through its territory and that even if Turkey closed the pipeline through its territory—whether as a result of U.S. or EC pressures or of the pressures of its ambition to join the European family and to gain EC membership—Saudi Arabia will not close the oil pipeline that passes through its territory which carries more than half, if not two-thirds, of the oil produced in Iraq. But the United States and the international community are serious in imposing sanctions against Iraq and will use all means to impose comprehensive economic sanctions on Iraq so as to pressure it to leave Kuwait.

[Shu'ayb] To make the dimensions of an economic siege clear to our listeners, can you tell us how this can be done in view of the fact that the Iraqi Government definitely took this into account but still acted as it did despite knowing that the United States has friends in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and also has the credibility of being the sole power in charge of international security at present?

[Mubashir] The matter is complicated. It is a contest in the art of reciprocal pressure. Iraq exerted pressure by making the operation quick and decisive. The government fell and the al-Sabah family left Kuwait. It believed that it could impose this fait accompli on the Arab region, the Middle East, and the world. Here, the forces of Al-Jazirah shield [of the Gulf Cooperation Council] failed the test and consequently the concept of cooperation among the Gulf countries collapsed. This collapse means that Iraq might find a gap through these countries because of its entry into Kuwait with its army of 1 million, if not more, and its more than 5,000 tanks and it is saying: I am a regional superpower and looking for a vital outlet and I have got it. The outlet here extends to the entire peninsula, that is to the Gulf states and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

It thought that an economic siege would be futile once it became a regional superpower. But calculations show that we are now longer living in the days of regional superpowers or even of superpowers following the breakup of the socialist camp, the collapse of the communist world, and the change from a bipolar world into a world of a single power. Iraq is now acting within the framework of a theory that cannot be implemented. It is a wager but there is a miscalculation and a wrong assessment. It is true that it has become a regional superpower, but the world does not accept the logic of regional superpowers. We must here recall that, even during the days of the two superpowers, the shah of Iran tried to become a regional superpower. He held the Persepolis festival so as to claim a 2,500-year-old heritage and seized the islands of Tonb and Abu-Musa. But the end result was his expulsion from Iran. President Saddam Husayn is committing the same mistake that the shah committed. However, the latter acted when the world accepted the logic of regional superpowers and

Saddam Husayn acted when the world is rejecting the logic of regional superpowers.

AL-AKHBAR on Invasion Pretexts

NC0708072790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA)—Under the headline "The Old Scenario Has Not Changed," AL-AKHBAR describes the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the feeble pretexts which Iraq presented to justify this invasion as similar to the scenario of an old movie film on the Western colonization of states in Africa, Asia, and the Arab world in the 18th and 19th centuries.

The paper says that the Iraqi regime has shown that it still lives by the old mentality of the wolf in the forest who can deal easily with any small meek lamb and make it a delicious meal. However, Iraq has forgotten that the world has changed and that it is not the only animal in the forest who can act as arrogantly as it wishes to do.

AL-AKHBAR says that the world situation has changed and that its inhabitants no longer close their eyes when the wolf wants to kill the lamb as used to happen in the past. The inhabitants of the world, the paper adds, have raised their voices and manifested their great and loud anger to protest this aggression.

In conclusion, the paper says that the out-dated old scenario will not succeed in achieving anything other than the whistles and resentment of the masses.

Palestinian 'Anti-Egypt Campaign'

JN0708145090 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 3 Aug 90 pp 4-6

[Article by Editor in Chief Makram Muhammad Ahmad: "The Palestinian Anti-Egypt Campaign Is Continuing"]

[Text] The anti-Egypt campaign conducted by some inferior Palestinians has continued. These inferior Palestinians believe that they can undermine Egypt's credibility by their repeated and trite statements on alleged Egyptian pressures on the Palestinians with the aim of forcing them to make further concessions as the price for resuming the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue.

The campaign has continued despite the fact that Hani al-Hasan, a high-ranking and respected adivser to 'Arafat, unequivocally declared that "since the PLO realized that its interests lie in effecting a coordination with Egypt, the never on any occasion has the latter taken a single step on the Palestine question without prior agreement with the PLO. Consequently, all the allegations being spread on Egyptian pressures on the PLO are mere illusions not supported by any facts."

We might add further details to the statement made by Hani al-Hasan. 'Arafat and other PLO leaders are well aware of these details, which pertain to the fact that all the proposals made by Egypt on the Palestine issue were drafted and signed by Palestinian leaders.

Why then this determination to misrepresent facts? Why is there talk of baseless stories and reports? Why do we hear these trite lies on the alleged Egyptian pressure on 'Arafat to make him sign a decision dismissing Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], the hero of Achille Lauro—if we were to term what he did as a heroic act—and also the hero of the Israeli beach operation, which was apparently awaited by the Israelis at the right time and place—if we were to confuse concepts and to term failure as an act of heroism or sacrifice.

Why are there allegations claiming that Egypt, under U.S. pressures, asked 'Arafat to dismiss Abu-al-'Abbas at a time when 'Arafat knows that Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, told U.S. President Bush while on a visit to the United States as a Mubarak envoy that no one should ask 'Arafat to do something that is beyond his power and authority, since Abu-al-'Abbas was elected by the Palestine National Council [PNC] and also because no agency other than the PNC can force Abu-al-'Abbas to relinquish his PLO post.

Why also this distasteful lie alleging that the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue—which has so far failed to materialize—was an Egyptian proposal designed to sidestep an international peace conference? This allegation comes at a time a time when 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders view the materialization of this dialogue as a primary objective, because it would be tantamount to an Israeli acknowledgement that any solution to the Palestinian question has to be endorsed by the PLO. Besides, the Palestinian leaders believe that the materialization of this dialogue would disprove the arguments of the Israeli hawks who do not want the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue, which has been going on for a long time, to expand to involve all forces within the Israeli society, including the most hardline elements. Furthermore, these leaders believe that this would be an implementation of PNC resolutions.

Why this distasteful lying—implicitly and through insinuations by high-ranking officials and explicitly and overtly by low-ranking officials, stating that what Egypt can do regarding the Palestine question is limited, because Egypt, as they put it, is not in a position of strength that would enable it to put effective and strong pressure on the U.S. position and also because Egypt, which is at the mercy of U.S. aid, is asking the Palestinians to give more than it is demanding of the United States and Israelis!

Why all this when 'Arafat and all Palestinian leaders know the facts and details? They know that the United States has moved from a position of glaring enmity toward the PLO and of total denial of its role to one accepting a dialogue with it as a result of Egyptian-Palestinian pressures that continued under the Reagan administration—where Shultz was an official—and under the current U.S. administration, thanks to the ongoing Palestinian intifadah. Moreover, 'Arafat and other Palestinian leaders are also aware that the proposal

to move the UN Security Council debate from New York to Geneva to allow 'Arafat to deliver a speech there after he was denied a U.S. entry visa was made by Egypt. Besides, these leaders know that Egypt does not seek a convergence of Egyptian-U.S. policies, because Egypt has regional and Arab objectives which might contradict or conflict with many U.S. objectives enshrined in the U.S. policy.

Why is there this determination to misrepresent facts when Egypt believes that the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue sought by the PLO is to be viewed as a mere prelude to an international conference?

Needless to say, all Arabs know that Egypt rejected U.S. pressure to participate—even by keeping silent—in the U.S. aggression against Libya, despite the fact that the Egyptian-Libyan ties were not at their best at the time.

There is also no need to mention that Egypt shouldered its responsibilities in full to halt the psychological warfare waged against Iraq, which was undoubtedly part of a scheme designed to prepare the climate for aggression. Egypt shouldered its responsibilities in full to warn of an aggression targeting Iraq using as a pretext the statements made by President Saddam in defense of his country's rights. I believe that the Egyptian message was received by all parties.

Needless to say, Egypt bore its responsibilities in full to plug all loopholes which could have been used to bring foreign intervention into the recent Iraq-Kuwait dispute.

So from where did the Palestinians bring get incorrect perceptions on Egypt's submission to U.S. pressures that seek to undermine Arab and Palestinian rights?

Why this insistence on misrepresenting facts? Why these allegations on developments which have not transpired? There must be other reasons.

Some of 'Arafat's friends use other false pretexts. They believe that the recurring crises in Egyptian-Palestinian relations is due to a belief by both sides that a general Egyptian-Palestinian agreement on the basis for a settlement means the need for Cairo and the PLO to maintain completely identical positions and policies. Such congruency is impossible because Egypt maintains a peace treaty with Israel, while Palestine—with a revolution and an intifadah—has had to resist Israel politically and militarily, because Israel has occupied Palestinian lands and confiscated the Palestinian people's rights.

Once again, this is wrong. Cairo does not maintain that the Palestinian positions should be identical with those of Egypt, does not call for confiscating the Palestinian people's right to rise up, and does not favor abolishing the right to resist the Israeli occupation in every way—on the condition that we draw the line between terrorism and revolutionary violence. Moreover, Egypt does not make a move on the Palestine question unless there is an advanced written agreement signed by Palestinian representatives.

Therefore, the differences are not due to the general Palestinian-Egyptian accord on the basis for a settlement, which lacks an agreement on details, but are due to the obvious contradictions between what some Palestinian leaders say behind closed doors and what they say in public.

'Arafat mentions other reasons for these recurring crises in Egyptian-Palestinian relations. He believes they are the outcome of the Palestinian pluralism which he calls "rifle democracy" and of the fact that the Palestinians are not one party. He also believes that such pluralism will lead to a pluralism of Palestinian viewpoints. But what is important, as 'Arafat believes, is the need for the Arabs to accept the Palestinian right to a pluralism reflecting the Palestinians' democratic action.

'Arafat repeats these pretexts in every crisis between Egypt and the PLO. But his argument is unconvincing, because we see no trace of such pluralism, except in differences with Egypt. But when such differences occur with other sides that prefer to settle the score with the Palestinians right from the start, we usually see nothing but silence.

Are not we entitled to ask 'Arafat: Why should this pluralism affect facts or the national commitment to basic Palestinian interests epitomized by the Palestine National Council?

In reality, we see no pluralism that maintains the basic Palestinian interests, but we see confused opinions, traded accusations, and a state of fragmentation and indiscipline that allows everyone to speak as he wishes. The only result is a confusion of policies and visions. Thus, the Palestinian position will remain in an endless maze where no one can tell what is true and what is false. This is the worst thing that can affect the Palestinian position—it has turned into a puzzle whose dimensions and purposes cannot be understood by anyone.

I am afraid that there are reasons which are more truthful than all these reasons.

—The first of these reasons is that the Palestinian movement has not yet recovered from an old, incurable disease: Some of the Palestinian movement's leaders continue to think they can find themselves lots of room for maneuvering as long as there are various alliances in the Arab world. They believe that in the context of these alliances, Palestinian action can make its practical and political moves on the basis of counterbalanced alliances.

Such policies have brought the Palestinian movement grave problems, turning it into something like a ball kicked back and forth by the Arab regimes and jeopardizing the independence of Palestinian deisionmaking, despite the long and bitter experience in this regard. However, the Palestinian movement has not yet recovered from its old, incurable disease.

Now there are Palestinian fears kindled by some about an Egyptian-Syrian rapprochement taking place at the expense of the Palestinians. Consequently, the solution—they believe—lies in helping the Palestinians establish a counterbalance in Baghdad or in other capitals.

The Palestinian vision has gone wrong here because it does not realize that Egypt, which rejects the exclusion of any Arab party, refuses to be a party to any one Arab axis against another. This is because the current regional and international circumstances dictate that all the Arabs exercise the broadest forms of sincere Arab solidarity. This is exactly what the Palestine question needs now: a broad Arab solidarity that supports the wise Palestinian objectives approved by the Palestine National Council. All efforts and forces must be mobilized to implement these objectives, and Palestinian steadfastness inside the occupied territories must be supported. Policies of axes and exclusion will not benefit the Palestinian action. On the contrary, these policies will erode whatever is left of its credibility and threaten its independent decisionmaking.

—The other reason lies in the fact that the Palestinian leadership is in doubt about the possibility of achieving a just settlement recognizing Palestinians' right to self-determination. The scenario as the Palestinians see it is that the extremist forces ruling Israel do not want a sound solution to the Palestine question, and that when the United States takes one step forward, it takes two steps back. Moreover, there are several world changes that are tempting Israel to show further intransigence. Israel believes that the Arabs have no alternative, and are suffering from the lack of an ally and the absence of support from comrades and friends.

In general, all this is right. What is not right, however, is that some Palestinian leaders should think that the way out of this current stalemate lies in going back on previous Palestinian positions that won the support of the world. It is also not right for some Palestinian leaders to think that Cairo can be used as a cover for them to abandon and withdraw from their previous options.

And here we should say to the Palestinians very clearly: If you are looking for a scapegoat, then Cairo will not be it, because the Palestinians have made their decisions of their own free will, based on the world changes and their impact on the Palestinian cause. Cairo has never imposed anything on 'Arafat, and dictated not a single resolution on the Palestine National Council. It was 'Arafat who decided; it was all the Palestinians who backed him.

Recently, Palestinian leaders were the ones who had the most optimism about a comprehensive settlement being achieved soon. Now they are disappointed and frustrated. This, again, is a Palestinain problem; the question is not one of optimism or pessimism. The crux of the matter is that the Palestinians should be certain, first, that the march is hard and full of obstacles; second, that their true objectives are attainable; and, third, that no matter how far Israel goes in its intransigence, it does not have the final word.

Essentially, the issue is a struggle of wills. The Palestinian will is capable of scoring victory if it abandons its old and chronic ailment and realizes that the Palestine question now needs just two things: large-scale Arab solidarity to back up the Palestinian position, and steadfastness in the occupied territories to keep the Palestinian intifadah continuously growing. This intifadah is the only good thing on the Palestinian scene.

Iraqi Withdrawal Urged

JN0708184890 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic 6 Aug pp 4, 5

[Article by Mahmud al-Tuhami: "Iraq Has To Withdraw"]

[Text] Iraq's border problem with Kuwait and its financial straits combined to bring on the sharp deterioration that led to Iraq's armed intervention to force Kuwait to submit to its demands. Not that the military invasion will solve Iraq's financial or political problems. Nor will the present military balance between Iraq and Kuwait be any indicator of what things will be like in the long run.

On the financial front: Kuwaiti state funds are not stacked at the Central Bank. The value of the Kuwaiti currency took a nose dive soon after the invasion and the freezing of Kuwaiti and Iraqi assets in the West. Thus, the Iraqis are being denied access to Kuwait's huge assets around the world.

Being an oil producer itself, Iraq will not have much use for Kuwait's crude, and the oil market could not possibly absorb all the pumped oil, if every nation were to produce at full capacity.

If other oil producers in the region should decide to overproduce and oversell, the current price levels could well plummet. Would Iraq then move and mount another invasion?

On the political front: By invading Kuwait, Iraq has alienated all the nations opposed to direct military intervention and alarmed countries with longstanding interests in the region. These nations will try every possible way of harassing Iraq and curtailing its movements on the international scene.

Whereas during the war between Iraq and Iran, Iraq could count on the support of the majority of the Arab states and interests further afield, this is hardly the case regarding its invasion of Kuwait. And if Iraq continues to be politically beleaguered, this is bound to have an impact on the country's internal stability. Scarcely out of the agony of eight years of battle, Iraq has entered into an unconvincing war. The next to suffer will be the military balance.

Of course, there is no comparison between the Kuwaiti military forces and the Iraqi war machine. The question,

however, is the following: For how long will international forces, which control the military market, allow Iraq to develop its military strength beyond the limits of defense? And for how long will Iraq be able to obtain the required technology to manufacture modern weapons, even if it has the financial capability?

The negative consequences of Iraq's occupation of the State of Kuwait will not affect the Arab region without affecting Iraq. Iraq, however, will be the greatest loser from this invasion.

This operation has proven that the Arabs, as a group, are incapable of running their affairs, solving their differences, and ending their problems with others. This makes me believe that there should be essential changes in the rules of dealing among the Arab parties in the region.

As I said in previous articles, organizing economic relations among the Arab countries is based on technical, economic, and political bases simultaneously. And this is the right way to end the division of the Arab world between rich and poor people. This situation cannot continue while international conflicts are disappearing, the phenomenon of balance of interests is emerging, and there are more international economic blocs seeking integration.

The failure of the Arab group to lay down their guns is a real tragedy. And the failure of the Arab group to find an economic formula that has the political and social characteristics for integration of interests is another tragedy.

The only option everybody has now is the return to reason to seek the arbitration of the conscience that is responsible for the future of the sons of this nation. And the voice of reason and conscience calls on Iraq to withdraw immediately from Kuwaiti territory and settle the problem on the basis of realistic diplomacy that takes all elements into account.

MENA Reviews Economic Effects

NC0708195390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA)—A large number of jointly held banks in Egypt have refused to exchange the Kuwaiti dinar in accordance with the exchange rates declared by the free banking committee, but public sector banks continue to exchange dinars for Kuwaitis who are in Egypt and for Egyptians working in Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Oil experts in Egypt expect the price of Egyptian oil to increase in the next 48 hours. The average price of a barrel of Egyptian oil now is around $20. The estimated annual income following the present rise in the price of Egyptian crude is expected to be around $2.2 billion.

However, the Egyptian economy is expected to witness a drop in revenue from the Suez Canal, which last year was estimated at approximately $1.3 billion. The decrease will result from the reduced number of tankers using the canal in the wake of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis. In addition, Egypt is expected to be affected by a drop in the remittances from the approximately 150,000 Egyptians who were working in Kuwait. Their total remittances ranged from $500 million to $800 million a year.

There is another negative factor which may affect Egypt's economy, and that is the sluggishness in tourism. This has already affected this season and may affect future ones as a result of the tension currently prevailing in most Gulf countries.

Commentary Views Cairo Arab Summit

NC0908143490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Bahiy-al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "The Summit, Hope, and Fate"]

[Text] The hearts of all Arabs are turned to the emergency summit in Cairo. Despite the dozens of Arab summits that have been held, today's summit is unique. An Egyptian statement which President Mubarak delivered paved the way for this summit. He explained the dimensions of the crisis and drew attention to the tragic dangers surrounding the Arab nation. We do not want to add anything new here on the dark events of the past few days, the difficult consequences of which we are still experiencing. We want only to concentrate on two important points:

The first point is that the occupation of an Arab state by the forces of another Arab state has struck at the heart of the credibility of the Arab slogans in which the Arabs believed for several centuries. It has emptied these slogans of their meaning and turned them into a laughing stock. The occupation and the resultant overthrow of a legitimate regime and its replacement by a regime backed by an occupation force is another serious precedent, no less ugly than the invasion itself. Therefore the defense of the legitimacy of the Arab regimes is an issue which will brook no argument. No one can accept any attempt to impose a puppet regime by force.

The second point is that the defense of Arab territory against any type of aggression must be primarily an Arab responsibility. The joint defense pact is the legal basis for this. It is shameful that the door should be opened for foreign interference under any pretext to defend Arab territory.

We believe that the Cairo emergency summit will place these two points at the top of its agenda. The Arab leaders and kings are required to say a clear, frank, precise, and decisive word which will put matters in order and prevent the collapse of the Arab entity under the impact of the successive events. In other words, Arab conditions do not tolerate long discussions or arguments which the Arab people, who yearn for a word to be uttered by the summit enabling them to catch their breath and restore their heartbeat, do not accept.

The Arab unanimity represented in the immediate response to the call for a summit is proof that the Arab leaders are aware how grave the present stage is and that

they sense the heavy responsibility placed on their shoulders. We believe that all the Arabs agree, even before the summit is held, that the aggression is a sin, that the overthrow of the Kuwaiti regime is a catastrophe, and that any attempt at foreign interference is a blow striking Arab dignity and honor to the core. Therefore, the ability to agree on a precise stand vis-a-vis Iraq is a question which will not be subject to long argument. We cannot here foresee an Arab confrontation with Iraq and we very much hope that Iraq will respond to Arab unanimity and take into consideration the fact that no one contemplates placing the Iraqi Government in a humiliating or derogatory position. However, we all want the Iraqi leadership to show great logic and maturity in dealing with the successive events in a manner befitting the position in which we place the Iraqi people. The courage to admit an error is nobler than insistence on this error. Respect for the group's opinion is the peak of self-respect. Sacrificing a limited regional stand to safeguard the entity of a nation and the future of a people is sufficient glory for those who may be seeking glory.

Arab Indifference Condemned

JN0908215090 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 8 Aug 90 p 5

[Editorial: "They Are Deceiving No One But Themselves"]

[Text] Whoever adopts an indifferent stand toward an encroachment on truth is like a mute devil. If the invasion of Kuwait, conquering its territory, and plundering its wealth is a major crime against the Arab nation and even the entire international community, the indifference of some Arab parties toward what has happened and the attempt by others to justify or support this ugly aggression against an independent Arab state and member of the Arab League and the United Nations constitutes a greater sin and an uglier crime. This is so because such a stand by these parties would constitute support for an action that violates all legal principles, international legitimacy, and relations of kinship, neighborliness, and Arab brotherhood. It also poses a dangerous precedent with unpredictable, destructive consequences for Arab unity and solidarity.

Since the outset, world public opinion has exposed the phony government of Iraqi Army officers formed by the occupying authority, which dubbed it the free Kuwait government. This is a matter that can be discovered by the most naive and most mentally retarded people. However, certain Arab papers want to convince us of the legitimacy of those agents and that they are Kuwaitis. It is a despicable and cheap game used by colonialists everywhere, and has resulted in utter failure everywhere and anywhere.

Without question, this abnormal stance by certain quarters belonging to the Arab nation evidently affirms the extent of harm done by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait to what we used to believe to be a real Arab solidarity, which turned out to be unable to hold water, even when both the aggressor and the victim are members of the Arab world. Those supporting today's aggression have forgotten that they may become its victims sooner than they think.

Libyan Officials Visit, Discuss Cooperation

Qadhdhaf Al-Damm Arrives 1 Aug

NC0108125990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1134 GMT 1 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 1 Aug (MENA)—Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm, general coordinator for Egyptian-Libyan relations, arrived in Cairo at noon today for a visit of several days.

Al-Talhi Meets Mubarak

NC0208140190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 2 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 2 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this afternoon received Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, Libyan secretary of the People's External Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Damm, coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations in Libya. [as published]

Leaves for Consultations

NC0308135490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1333 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA)—Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, Libyan secretary of the People's External Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau, left Cairo for Tripoli this afternoon for consultations with his government.

In a predeparture statement, the Libyan official said he may return to Cairo, where the Arab foreign ministers will resume meeting at 1800 to discuss the situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

Al-Hinshari Discusses Security

NC0308154590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 3 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 3 Aug (MENA)—Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Musa and 'Izz-al-Din al-Hinshari, Libyan secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice, held a round of talks last night to discuss ways to promote bilateral cooperation in the fields of security and police work between the two countries. The cooperation will include the fields of counternarcotics, civil defense, police communications, information and documentation, travel documents, combating crime, and training.

The Libyan official arrived in Cairo yesterday on a visit to Egypt that will last for several days.

Najibullah Offer on Full Diplomatic Ties Rejected

JN0308161290 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 2 Aug 90 p 1

[By 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Several Islamic states have suspended aid to the Afghan mujahidin under Soviet pressures. In statements to AL-WAFD, Dirgham Rayyani [name as published], head of the Afghan delegation to the Islamic ministerial conference, has called on the Islamic states to increase aid to the mujahidin to topple Kabul's agent regime. Rayyani pointed out that there are 4,000 Soviet military advisers in Afghanistan to save the agent government. Rayyani said that the mujahidin have continued to achieve victories. He stressed the mujahidin's rejection of holding elections in Afghanistan before deposing the Soviet-agent Najibullah government.

The head of the Afghan delegation called on the Islamic states to confront the massacres perpetrated by the Najibullah government against unarmed civilians in Afghanistan.

AL-WAFD has learned that Egypt turned down an offer from President Najibullah to establish full diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level between Egypt and Afghanistan.

Libya

Volunteers Offer To Confront U.S. Gulf Presence

LD0908121690 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Thousands of citizens and brother Arabs residing in the Great Jamahiriyah, the land of all Arabs, announce their readiness to volunteer to travel immediately to the Arab Gulf region to confront the U.S. and foreign presence and intervention in the affairs of the Arab nation.

Register at Iraqi Embassy

LD0908151790 Tripoli JANA in English 1423 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tripoli, Hanibal [August] 9, Jamahiriyah News Agency—Thousands of our citizens and Arab nationals living in Great Al-Jamahiriyah have gone to the Iraqi Embassy expressing their willingness to volunteer and travel forthwith to the Arab Gulf to face up to the U.S. presence and interference on the affairs of the Arab nation.

The embassy of sisterly Iraq has started registering the volunteers since yesterday afternoon accepting Libyan Arab and other Arab nationals living in Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

Commenting to JANA, the above volunteers said that they have to [words indistinct] embassy to register for volunteering to fight against the U.S. troops that have violated the sanctity of the Arab lands and integrity. They have expressed their readiness to go forthwith to the Arab Gulf to repulse the U.S. troops contributing with the brothers in Iraq in defending the integrity of the Arab soil.

Al-Qadhdhafi Confirms USSR Halts Arms Supplies

LD0908120990 Hamburg DPA in German 1048 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—The Libyan revolutionary leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has confirmed that the Soviet Union has stopped its arms shipments to his country. Libya is also receiving no spare parts for existing material, al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview for ARD, which German radio stations intend to broadcast today.

According to Hesse Radio, ARD's North Africa correspondent conducted the interview before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Al-Qadhdhafi told him that the USSR is demanding from Libya the repayment of around $3 billion in debts. Moscow refuses to be paid in crude oil and is demanding cash.

The Libyan revolutionary leader expressed his conviction that there would at some point be war between the Arabs and Israel. He described a political solution in the Near East as unlikely. He ruled out the use of chemical, nuclear, or biological weapons against Israel: "Only a madman would think of such a thing." There is no room for weapons of total destruction in the Near East. Their use against Israel would also hit Palestinians, Lebanese, Syrians, Jordanians, and Egyptians.

'Demonstration of Anger' at Saudi Embassy

LD0908005590 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Members of the revolutionary teacher class, graduates of the Jamahiriyah basic sciences education colleges and secondary schools of the martyrs of lightning and arms of the great Al-Fatih in Tripoli staged a demonstration of anger and condemnation against the imperialist U.S. intervention in the Arab nation's internal affairs and denounced the military imperialist presence in Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Gulf.

After gathering at the Green Square in Tripoli the demonstrators went to the Saudi Embassy carrying signs expressing their anger and indignation because the Saudi Government has allowed U.S. military forces to enter Saudi territory. They chanted thundering slogans denouncing the conspiracy of the Arab reaction and its suspicious alliance with imperialism against the Arab nation. They declared that the Arab anger generation [as heard] will be stronger than the fleets of U.S. imperialism and the Western countries. They called for working toward achieving comprehensive Arab unity and for forcefully confronting the U.S. arrogance and striking at its interests wherever they lie for the sake of the Arab nation's pride and dignity.

The participants in the demonstration issued a statement in which they condemned the imperialist military attempts to interfere in the Arabian Gulf region. They stressed that this interference is another wave of the current crusade against the Arab nation aimed against the safety and freedom of this nation and another attempt to take it back to the grip of colonialism.

In their statement the demonstrators stressed their firm rejection of any dirty attempt to bring imperialism back to the Arab region on the pretext of so-called peace, the peace of the United States and Zionism.

Mauritania

4,000 Volunteer for Kuwait 'Army'

NC0808173690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1714 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Nouakchott, 8 Aug (MENA)—Arab diplomatic sources have reported that the Iraqi Embassy here has started to enlist Mauritanian volunteers to join the so-called "popular army" in Kuwait.

These sources said that the Iraqi Embassy here is paying $1,500 immediately to these volunteers, who will then receive $1,000 a month. They added that 4,000 Mauritanians have volunteered, as they claimed, for the army Iraq is now forming.

Morocco

Laraki, Delegation Leave for Cairo Arab Summit

LD0908134190 Rabat MAP in English 1231 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Rabat, Aug.9 (MAP) - Moroccan Premier Azeddine Laraki headed this Thursday morning for Cairo to represent Morocco at the Arab emergency summit that will examine the situation in the Gulf following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The prime minister is accompanied by a large party including the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali and several senior diplomats and officials.

Filali Appointed State Foreign Affairs Minister

LD0908145790 Rabat MAP in English 1339 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Rabat, Aug. 9 (MAP)—King Hassan II of Morocco appointed Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali as minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, official sources announced here today.

The appointment decree will be published in the next release of 'BULLETIN OFFICIEL', the same source added.

Sudan

Statements Oppose Western Role in Gulf Crisis

Trade Union Leadership

EA0908211590 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Aug 90

["Statement" by the Central Committee of the Sudanese General Trade Union of the employees, professionals, technicians, and agriculturists to the UN secretary general; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] We of the general union have been monitoring the vicious information onslaught being mounted by certain Western circles against a number of Arab states such as Sudan for no reason other than the fact that these states have pursued a course independent of those circles, this course being what the body you head favors.

This clear interference in the internal affairs of Arab states continued right up until the conflict between Iraq and Kuwait broke out, but if not for this intensive interference, the conflict would have been rapidly contained within the Arab framework. However, the information onslaught disguises a great conspiracy against the entire Arab nation to drain its resources and render the Gulf a region of permanent war.

Where was the world's conscience when imperialist America and the states rotating around it intervened in Panama, Afghanistan, Liberia, and patient Palestine?

The statement stressed the resolute stand of the masses of the Sudanese trade union movement against colonialist intervention in the region and condemned America's escalation and terrorism. It called on the UN to take the necessary steps to stop this escalation and rid the region of foreign military bases.

National Dialogue Conference

EA0908171090 Omdourman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Aug 90

["Statement" issued by the National Dialogue Conference on the political system; date, place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Our Arab nation today faces an imminent threat to its existence and destiny due to foreign interference in its affairs and issues, a matter which demands the vigilance of all our Arab masses to close the loopholes to the contempt threatening the unity of our nation and our pan-Arab security. This imminent threat makes it incumbent on every single one of our Arab leaders as they meet in Cairo to discuss these latest dangerous developments and to be alert to what might be dragged in by this interference, which is falsely disguised as concern for our nation and its stability from threats to our destiny and our pan-Arab security. Our Arab leaders, as they now meet in Cairo, are capable of this critical objectivity and realism so that the

solution remains in the Arab house and the opportunity is wrested from our enemies, who are always lying in ambush for the Arab nation.

As we meet today in this conference as representatives of the various sectors of the Sudanese people, we call on the Arab leaders to discharge their responsibility of facing up to this challenge to our Arab nation. History will not be merciful to our present generation if it fails to discharge its responsibility of meeting the challenge of foreign interference in our Arab homeland and our internal affairs and of liquidating the interference which fundamentally targets our unity, security, and stability.

Al-Bashir Leaves for Cairo Summit 9 Aug

EA0908170490 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 9 August—The Revolution Command Council Chairman Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir left at noon today for Cairo as head of a high-ranking delegation to participate in the emergency Arab summit which is to take place there. In a press statement to SUNA prior to his departure, Lieutenant Gen. 'Umar expressed hope that the current crisis in the Arab Gulf would be contained within the Arab League framework. Lieutenant Gen. 'Umar added that the Arab nation is currently in a dangerous phase which calls for joint efforts on the part of the Arab countries to face the current crisis. The delegation includes the foreign minister and the minister of state at the republican palace.

Demonstration Held Before U.S. Embassy

NC0908174690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1714 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 9 Aug (MENA)—Sudanese crowds assembled in a large demonstration before the U.S. Embassy building in Khartoum today. They shouted slogans denouncing the U.S. intervention in the Gulf.

At the same time the national dialogue conference in Sudan issued a statement calling on the Arab leaders to show solidarity and resolve the Gulf crisis without foreign intervention.

The statement said that the Arab leaders realize that foreign intervention does not seek to benefit the Arab nation as much as it aims to obtain a foothold and create a hotbed of tension which it will exploit to preclude the attainment of Arab unity.

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18 Detained Trade Unionists Released

EA0408155190 Omdurman Domestic Service in English 0430 GMT 2 Aug 90

[From the "Press Headlines"]

[Text] AL-INQADH AL-WATANI reports the release of 18 detained trade unionists. The trade union movement stresses the renewal of its support for the revolution.

SUDAN AL-HADITH reports that according to the minister of health, there should be a study of the causes [word indistinct] of the trade union movement—a proposal to form a national committee to explain the union's situation worldwide.

Officials Address Trade Union Conference

Minister on 'Economic War'

EA0408182090 Khartoum SUNA in French 0915 GMT 4 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 4 August (SUNA)—Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahim Hamdi, the minister of finance and economic planning, has announced that Sudan is facing signs of an economic war orchestrated and implemented by some countries and financial institutions, both local and international. Addressing the conference for trade union dialogue on Friday morning [3 August], Dr. Hamdi indicated that Sudan (?is going) to lose $1.3 billion because of the suspension of aid by those institutions, and at the same time stands to lose the property of Sudanese workers abroad. He further said that Sudan is classified among the five poorest countries of the world.

"We are going to privatize all the less profitable public companies in order to redress the country's economy," he concluded.

Al-Bashir Stresses Dialogue

EA0508193390 Khartoum SUNA in English 0942 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] 5 August (SUNA) [dateline as received]—Chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir has reiterated the revolution's adherence to dialogue, saying that the revolution will not isolate anybody. [He was] speaking at the closing session of the trade union conference. The conference's recommendations come in completion to the resolution of the conference convened by the revolution which represented a (?vivid) example for national dialogue channels, Gen. Bashir said.

He expressed the revolution's determination to implement the economic recovery programme and realise social justice, putting in the considering the human beings [as received] as target for development in the country. Gen. al-Bashir called on the trade unions movement to support the revolution in achieving the slogan of "we eat from which we cultivate and we wear from what we manufacture", a slogan, he said, [which] could not be attained without rallying efforts and abandoning differences. "We want a unified trade unions movement which is [a] top priority if we [are to] increase productivity and [serve] Sudan's interests", he added.

He greeted the workers at the sugar sector and farmers throughout the country, saying Sudan had torn off this year the sugar 61 bill and preparations were currently under way to cultivate this season of million feddan [acres] of wheat and realise self-sufficiency.

Gen. al-Bashir reviewed the country's circumstances under the partisan regime, indicating that the political parties had exploited the trade unions in realising their designs.

The conference chairman, 'Uthman 'Abd-al-Qadir, who also addressed the forum, constituted a manner of the revolution and targetted the adoption of the citizens in a way that would lead [to] the formation of a Sudan productive society. 'Abd-al-Qadir highlighted what was realised by [the] conference, saying that it was a crowning to the national dialogue. He called on the revolution to organise and protect the unity of the trade union movement, noting that the trade unions were responsible for asserting their national creativity.

Conference Ends 5 Aug

EA0508212990 Khartoum SUNA in French 0934 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Aug (SUNA)—Proceedings of the trade unions' dialogue conference ended in Khartoum on Saturday. The conference adopted several recommendations which include the effective role of the trade unions toward increasing production, and their participation in the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country. The conference also stressed the importance of the trade unions' freedom, unity, and independence in their activities. As regards the laws governing trade unions, the conference recommended the introduction of a new trade union law.

Meanwhile, the conference recommended strengthening cooperation relations with regional Arab and African trade union federations and stressed the role of trade unions in the sector of popular diplomacy.

Bahrain

Amir on Summit, Iraq's 'Flagrant Aggression'

NC0908204790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1932 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (WAKH)—Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, has stated that the rapid response to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's call for an emergency Arab summit in Cairo demonstrates the prestige that Egypt enjoys in every Arab heart. It is also a certain sign of the Arab leaders' realization of the immensity of the ordeal that the nation is going through and the devastating catastrophe that will result from it, he said.

In a statement upon his arrival in Cairo today, his highness said that Egypt deserves our appreciation and respect for assuming a historic responsibility in order to rapidly contain the current crisis resulting from Iraq's military invasion and occupation of fraternal Kuwait.

His highness said the trying circumstances that our nation is currently facing are the darkest and most delicate it has faced in modern times. He added that the flagrant aggression against Kuwait and the blatant violation of its territorial integrity constitutes a departure from noble Arab values, an act of aggression against the sanctity of neighborhood, and a grave precedent in relations between countries.

His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman added that, vis-a-vis this serious challenge to our nation's present and future, we are required more than ever before to rise to the level of the responsibility which our Arab peoples have entrusted us with. We must seek a quick and just solution that ensures the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territory, paves the way for the restoration of the legitimate government, and lays down sound foundations for settling Arab differences by consultation and dialogue, he declared.

Iranian, Bahraini Foreign Ministers Denounce Iraq

LD0908154990 Tehran IRNA in English 1604 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug 9, IRNA—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak told his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati in Manama Thursday that Iraq's aggression, occupation and annexation of Kuwait was hard to believe for Bahrain. The Bahraini foreign minister added that this was something unacceptable to any Arab or Muslim state or the world. Both the Iranian and Bahraini foreign ministers agreed that Iraq's annexation of Kuwait was outrageous, and they condemned Iraq's take over of the tiny oil-rich sheikhdom.

Velayati is in Manama on the 5th leg of his tour of regional Arab states which has already taken him to Syria, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

Mubarak also said that friendly ties between Persian Gulf littoral states and the Islamic Republic was necessary for the development of countries in the region and for regional stability. He announced Bahrain's willingness to improve and strengthen the relations between Iran and the 6-state (Persian) Gulf Cooperation council of which Kuwait was a member.

Velayati Leaves Manama 9 Aug

NC0908122990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1047 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Manama, 9 Aug (WAKH)—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left here today after a visit to Bahrain during which he conveyed a message to Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah from Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Kuwait

Resistance Reportedly Attacks Iraqi Positions

NC0908122690 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] According to KUNA, the Kuwaiti resistance attacked Iraqi positions in al-Shuwayr today.

Meanwhile, 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, Kuwaiti state minister for cabinet affairs, has said that the Colonel 'Ala' Husayn 'Ali, head of the Kuwaiti provisional government, was Iraq's military attache to Libya. It is reported that Col. 'Ali was Iraq's military attache to Libya during the 1969 coup which brought Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to power in that country.

Moroccan Aircraft Parked at Airport Since 1 Aug

LD0908101790 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Rabat, 9 Aug (MAP)—A Royal Air Maroc aircraft has been parked at Kuwait airport since 1 August due to the closure of the country's airspace. The Boeing 727 S-200 makes a regular weekly flight beween Kuwait and Morocco every Wednesday. The aircraft's crew of nine—the captain, his assistant, a mechanic, four stewardesses, and two stewards—are still there.

Crowd Expresses 'Joy' Over 'Return of Branch'

JN0908154090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 9 Aug (INA)—A mammoth demonstration took to the streets in the city of Kuwait today to express joy over the return of the branch to the origin. The large gathering of people participating in the demonstration paid allegiance to President Saddam Husayn's leadership, which united the homeland and restored to dear Kuwait its true Arab face.

During the demonstration the citizens carried posters of President Saddam Husayn and placards greeting his unique, struggling leadership. The demonstrators shouted emotional and patriotic slogans expressing the overwhelming joy of the Iraqis in the valiant city of Kuwait.

Comrade 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command member, greeted the citizens, who marched down a number of the city streets.

The demonstrators raised placards with the following slogans: "The Kuwaiti Masses Greet Their Great Leader Saddam Husayn's Stands"; "Yes, Yes, O Saddam"; "Abu-'Udayy [Saddam Husayn], Do Not Worry, We Will Sacrifice Unity With Our Blood"; "The Masses in the City of Kuwait Stand United Behind Their Patriotic Leadership"; and "Al-Sabah Is a Despotic Clique Which God Forced To Sink Into the Ground."

The Ba'th Party Regional Command member addressed a message to President Saddam Husayn on behalf of the demonstrators, in which he congratulated the president on the restoration of rights to the people and the return of the branch to its origin. [passage omitted]

Emir's Brother Comments on Kuwait Situation

PM0908133090 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Aug 90 p7

[Interview with Shaykh Khalid al-Ahmad al-Sabah, chief of the Kuwaiti Amiri Court and brother of the emir of Kuwait, by Zaki Shihab in London; date not given]

[Text] [Shihab] How do you assess the Arab position?

[Shaykh Khalid] As far as the Arab position is concerned, the attitude of some states has been somewhat lax, as you know, but the majority—all the Gulf states, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the rest of the Arab states with two or three exceptions—have supported Kuwait's right to regain territorial sovereignty.

[Shihab] How is the resistance against the Iraqi forces being organized?

[Shaykh Khalid] The resistance stems from the people. The youth are organizing themselves in groups inside [Kuwait]. There are many young military volunteers. They take their orders from the political leadership and they concentrate their attacks on the invasion forces according to available means.

[Shihab] Are there specific figures for Kuwaiti casualties?

[Shaykh Khalid] I cannot give specific figures but I can say that they have earned the medal of honor and that they gave their blood in defense of Kuwait's independence and in support of its legitimate government.

[Shihab] You have been quoted as saying that the Iraqi forces aimed to destroy the amiri palaces.

[Shaykh Khalid] I believe their aim was to destroy legitimacy but they failed in that because all sectors of Kuwaiti people throughout the world and in Kuwait support legitimacy.

[Shihab] How do you view the European position in particular, and the Western position in general, on the developments in your country?

[Shaykh Khalid] There is now a consensus in the entire world, not just in the West or in Europe, in support of Kuwait, and a universal request for the immediate withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from all Kuwaiti territory.

[Shihab] Does the Kuwaiti leadership have any specific requests it would like to address to the Western states, especially the United States and Britain?

[Shaykh Khalid] Kuwait is now passing through the worst possible crisis and it is prepared to accept any assistance the friendly and fraternal states could provide, without being specific and without saying in what fields.

[Shihab] After all these developments, do you expect the crisis to be resolved?

[Shaykh Khalid] There has been no dialogue at all. What happened was an Iraqi invasion of our country.

[Shihab] Did the Kuwaiti Government have any information about the possibility of any Iraqi attack?

[Shaykh Khalid] I did not imagine that a friendly and neighboring state would commit aggression against us. There was a time when it was the shield and the protector. Did you or anyone else think that Iraq would invade Kuwait?

We had initiated talks with Iraq on what they described as demands but then this happened. We hope God will end this crisis and then we will see.

[Shihab] How many Kuwaiti families which happened to be outside Kuwait are now returning to the Gulf states?

[Shaykh Khalid] In the summer most Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis leave the country on holiday to escape the intense heat and get some rest from work. The Iraqi Government's timing was perhaps deliberate and premeditated to ensure that they would be invading a half empty country.

[Shihab] The Iraqi media have carried pictures showing Iraqi forces withdrawing. What do you think of that?

[Shaykh Khalid] I think these were Kuwaiti booty they took from Kuwaiti Army barracks.

[Shihab] What about reported attacks on financial institutions and companies?

[Shaykh Khalid] These institutions were plundered.

[Shihab] You have been quoted as saying that seven members of al-Sabah family were martyred.

[Shaykh Khalid] Yes, seven were martyred and eight were arrested.

[Shihab] Could we know the names of the martyrs?

[Shaykh Khalid] Yes, of course, but because of certain circumstances, the most important of which being the fact that their wives and relatives still do not know, the matter will remain secret for a while.

[Shihab] Do you believe that the economic measures taken over the past two days will be effective in forcing the Iraqi forces to withdraw?

[Shaykh Khalid] There can be no doubt that they are effective but will take time and will reflect on the Iraqi economy which will undoubtedly collapse.

[Shihab] What is the nature of your current visit to Britain?

[Shaykh Khalid] I have come to acquaint myself with the conditions of the Kuwaiti community, especially the tourists and families on holiday, to reassure them about their political leadership, and to find out what problems they may have in order to help them solve such problems.

[Shihab] Have you met with any British officials?

[Shaykh Khalid] The only purpose of my visit is to inspect the condition of the Kuwaiti community.

[Shihab] What are the main problems faced by the Kuwaiti community at present?

[Shaykh Khalid] They were stunned by the surprise. Most of them believe that the crisis might continue for a long time and that problems might result regarding housing and possible suspension of treatment of people currently receiving treatment. These things are annoying.

[Shihab] Have these problems been solved?

[Shaykh Khalid] We have begun solving all these problems because we want to reassure our people whether they stay here or wish to go to friendly and fraternal states which offered their services.

[Shihab] You have met with the members of the community. What were their main requests?

[Shaykh Khalid] Indeed, I have met with them. They put emphasis on difficulties related to currency exchange, uncertainty about apartments, and the sick receiving treatment in hospitals.

[Shihab] Have contacts been made with banks and airlines to solve these problems?

[Shaykh Khalid] We have begun solving these problems and the fraternal Arab states have done all they could and provided all possible facilities, especially the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states.

Saudi Arabia

Government Praises Western Military Support

LD0908122290 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1137 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] A responsible source has made a statement to SPA today in which he says: The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia wants to express its deep appreciation to all sister Arab states and friendly states that responded quickly to the wishes of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in sending military forces to support the Saudi Armed Forces in the defense of its territorial integrity and of the pillars of its economy in light of the current circumstances. The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, supreme commander of the Saudi Armed Forces, explained this in his noble speech today to his brothers and sons the citizens.

The source goes on to say: The response of the brother Arabs and friends in the states of the West indicates the extent of those states' understanding of the dangers facing the Arab nation in this critical period of its history. It also indicates the eagerness of those states for the achievement of peace and security in the Arab Gulf region, and consequently the return of matters to their normal state in the sister state of Kuwait, the return of legitimate authority in rule of that country, and the removal of all traces of the Iraqi invasion of the sister state of Kuwait.

The source ends its statement by saying: While the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expresses its gratitude to the states whose forces arrived yesterday and whose forces will arrive today and tomorrow, God willing, it confirms anew that the role of the aforementioned forces is defensive and temporary, and will end immediately after the removal of the causes leading to their participation in the maintenance of peace and security for all the states of the Arab Gulf region.

King Tells Airlines, Embassies To Aid Kuwaitis

LD1008104990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0940 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Jeddah, 10 Aug (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, has agreed to allow the Kingdom's Government, through its embassies abroad, to give aid and assistance to Kuwaiti citizens abroad and to stand by them in this difficult time.

The custodian of the two holy mosques has instructed the Kingdom's embassies abroad to grant Kuwaiti citizens and their companions abroad the necessary visas and to cooperate with international agencies that have experience in this regard.

The custodian of the two holy mosques also has instructed Saudi Arabian airlines to accept Kuwaiti airline tickets belonging to Kuwaiti citizens abroad. [passage omitted]

Crown Prince Charged With Handling State Affairs

LD0908155390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1505 GMT 9 Aug

[Text] Jeddah, 9 Aug (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud addressed the following letter to His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard:

In the name of God the merciful and compassionate,

Number: A/A

Date: 9 August 1990.

His Royal Highness Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz,

crown prince, may God protect him,

Peace be on you and God's mercy and blessings. Owing to our intention to travel, God willing, to Cairo today, Thursday, 9 August 1990, we are delegating your highness to look after the interests of the people and to manage the affairs of the state during our absence from the Kingdom.

We pray to God to help and guide you. Peace be upon you.

Crown Prince Receives Irish Premier's Call

LD0908194390 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy of the custodian of the two holy mosques, this evening received a telephone call from His Excellency Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughy.

During the telephone call, the Irish prime minister expressed to the deputy of the custodian of the two holy places the sympathy of the Irish Government and people, and his country's condemnation of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz expressed to the Irish prime minister his appreciation and gratitude. He wished his excellency well and wish the Irish people continuous progress and prosperity.

Ambassador to Austria Comments on Gulf Crisis

AU0908212090 Vienna Television Service in German 2000 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Interview with Assa Al-Noweiser, ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Austria, by Horst Kimbacher; place and date not given—recorded; Al-Noweiser statements in Arabic with superimposed German translation]

[Text] [Al-Noweiser] The best judgment I can make on behalf of my government is the following: First of all the crisis must be contained. Once this is achieved by the efforts of our friends and all Arab states, then this is a signal for a solution, for a necessary solution. After all, the situation must not deteriorate. This would not be in the interest of the Arab states or our friends, including Austria.

The overall perspective that we have in Saudi Arabia is the following: We must now fully use all opportunities and contacts in order to find an honorable and correct solution.

[Kimbacher] Is it enough to contain the conflict? Are the Arabs not also demanding an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait? Is it not necessary to change the current situation?

[Al-Noweiser] Of course, the situation must be changed. All Arab states share this opinion. However, and I think this is the view of Saudi Arabia, we must not seek new problems. We are trying to stop the problem from deteriorating and to find a solution.

[Kimbacher] Yet in this case the Arab states must find a solution that permits Saddam Husayn a respectable withdrawal.

[Al-Noweiser] Probably, we will have to wait for the results of the summit.

[Kimbacher] Do you have any signs from Saddam Husayn that indicate that he is now ready to negotiate?

[Al-Noweiser] I do not have any new information that would hint at such a signal. Nevertheless, I believe that, together with the Arab leaders, Saddam Husayn is now quite eager to find a solution.

United Arab Emirates

Council Discusses Crisis; Zayid Leaves for Cairo

JN0908112590 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpts] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, chaired a meeting for the union's higher council before his highness' departure to Cairo.

The council listened to a report on the current political activity to contain the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and the outcome of the intensive contacts and consultations held by the president of the state with Arab and foreign leaders over the past few days on the latest developments in the Gulf. His highness discussed in those contacts the possibility of reaching an urgent solution to the crisis of the region in the interest of the Arab nation and its solidarity and unity, especially under the current circumstances.

The council stressed the importance of making nonstop efforts to contain and overcome the developments in a spirit of brotherhood and respecting the bonds of blood relations, history, neighborliness, and common destiny among the brothers. The council expressed confidence in the prudence of his highness the president of the state and his brother Arab leaders and its appreciation for all

earnest efforts and auspices of goodwill aimed at bringing about the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territories and restoring the situation to normal as it was before in the interests of the entire Arab nation. [passage omitted]

His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, left the country, with God's care and protection, at 1100 today. He is leading the United Arab Emirates' delegation to the emergency Arab summit, which will open in Cairo later today to tackle developments in the Gulf and to discuss how to resolve the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis. [passage omitted]

Supreme Council Calls for Withdrawal

NC0908193490 Manama WAKH in English 1635 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Aug 9 (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] Federal Supreme Council today called for a solution to the Gulf crisis sparked by Iraq's occupation of Kuwait.

The council, headed by President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, discussed a report on current political moves to end the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait and Shaykh Zayid's recent contacts to find a settlement to serve the Arab nation and safeguard its march towards solidarity, EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY (WAM) said.

The council stressed the importance of pursuing efforts to contain the crisis within the framework of a spirit of brotherhood and bonds of blood, history, neighbourhood, and common future.

It expressed confidence in Shaykh Zayid's wisdom and the efforts of Arab leaders to ensure an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and restore the situation to normal to preserve the national Arab interests.

Minister Asks OPEC To Observe Oil Quotas

JN0608190190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1825 GMT 6 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Aug (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has called on the OPEC member states to actually adhere to their production quotas which were unanimously agreed upon in the 87th OPEC conference, held on 26 July 1990 in Geneva, and not to exceed these quotas in light of the current circumstances in the Gulf region.

In a message he addressed to Sadek Boussena, Algerian mines and industry minister and the current chairman of OPEC; OPEC Secretary General Dr. Subroto; and Dr. Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of oil and natural resources, he asked them to convey his message to the 13 OPEC oil ministers.

Yemen

Salih Receives Sultan Qabus Message, Gives Reply

JN0908181390 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, have received brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawwas, information minister of Oman. The Omani minister conveyed a message to the brother president from his brother Sultan Qabus Bin- Sa'id of Oman dealing with the current developments in the Gulf region and the coordination of efforts between the two brotherly countries, Yemen and Oman, to contain and overcome the crisis and thus avert any danger of foreign intervention and enhance Arab solidarity and pan-Arab security, as well as bilateral relations.

The brother president gave the information minister a reply to his brother Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id. The meeting was attended by brother Dr. Muhammad Ahmad Barhum, minister of information, and the Omani ambassador in Sanaa.

Demonstrators Surround U.S. Embassy in Sanaa

NC0908142090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1343 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Sanaa, 9 Aug (MENA)—Several hundred Yemeni demonstrators surrounded the U.S. Embassy building in Sanaa today, shouting slogans denouncing U.S. imperialism and opposing U.S. interference in the Gulf.

The demonstrators cut the telephone cables outside the embassy building.

Minister Apologizes for Attacks on Embassies

NC0908151690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1339 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Sanaa, 9 Aug (MENA)—Hazim 'Abd-al-Khaliq, director of protocol at the Yemeni Foreign Ministry, has apologized for the attack by demonstrators on the Egyptian Embassy in Sanaa today.

During their meeting today, the Yemeni official assured Amin Yusri, the Egyptian ambassador in Sanaa, that the policemen who failed in their duty to protect the embassy building will be punished. He also stressed that the Yemeni authorities will do their best to protect the Egyptian Embassy and its staff, Egypt Air offices, the Egyptian trade center, the MENA office, the Egyptian Club, and the Egyptian community in Yemen.

Yemeni demonstrators had stoned the Egyptian Embassy building, causing some damages.

In another development, the Yemeni Foreign Ministry made a similar apology to the Saudi ambassador in Sanaa for attacks by demonstrators on the Saudi Embassy building and the SPA [SAUDI PRESS AGENCY] offices.

Saddam Husayn Meets With Yasir 'Arafat 9 Aug

JN0908124290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1224 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn received Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and PLO Executive Committee chairman, today.

During the meeting they discussed relations and developments in the Arab arena, in addition to means of supporting the intifadah of the Palestinian Arab people.

Attending the meeting were Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; Salah Khalaf; Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member; and Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser.

Ramadan, 'Aziz Leave for Cairo Emergency Summit

JN0908135690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1322 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad today for Egypt to lead the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the emergency Arab summit due to be held in Cairo. He is accompanied by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Sa'dun Hammadi, RCC member and deputy prime minister.

In a statement to INA, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that Iraq is concerned about attending Arab summits and all Arab meetings to participate effectively in discussing Arab issues clearly and to stress the importance of giving precedence to pan-Arab interests over narrow parochial interests to confront overt U.S. threats to the Arab nation and clear preparations to carry out aggressions against Iraq with U.S. land, naval, and air forces, which have taken up positions on Arab territories and waters to attack Iraq.

Taha Yasin Ramadan asserted that Arab leaders today are responsible before God, history, the present, and the future to adopt a unified Arab position against foreign threats and to free themselves from subservience, [word indistinct] the Arab fate in the hands of foreigners who are the enemies of the Arabs, primarily the United States, which has been supporting the Zionist entity to consolidate its usurpation of beloved Palestine and expand its area at the expense of the Palestinian Arab people.

The first deputy prime minister, moreover, reasserted that the Arab masses all over the Arab homeland are aware of these schemes which target the progress and awakening being experienced by Iraq by virtue of its courageous and independent pan-Arab stands, which depend on the tremendous energies of the struggling and generous Arab sons. He also pointed out that any aggression on Iraq, regardless of its source, will be answered decisively; and when Iraq says something, it is capable of following it through. The history of Iraq provides the best evidence for those seeking it.

Taha Yasin Ramadan was seen off at the airport by several ministers and the Egyptian ambassador in Baghdad.

Country's Borders To Open for Departing Arabs

NC0908140690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1337 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (MENA)—Arab sources have told a MENA correspondent in Baghdad that the Iraqi land borders will be opened as of today for Arabs who want to leave Iraq.

These borders were closed on 2 August, the day the developments began in Kuwait. The opening of the borders has not yet been officially announced in Baghdad.

Closed to U.S., West European Citizens

NC1008100190 Paris AFP in English 0929 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Amman, Aug 10 (AFP)—Iraq's border with Jordan remains open to travellers from Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Soviet Union and former East bloc countries but is closed to North Americans and Western Europeans, except for diplomats, informed sources said here Friday.

Iraq was reported by the British Foreign Office Thursday to have closed its border to all travellers except diplomats, after Baghdad ordered foreign diplomats to leave Kuwait by August 24 and set up operations in the Iraqi capital. [passage omitted]

Ambassador in Athens Warns of Chemical Warfare

NC0908161890 Athens Domestic Service in Greek 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] In a news conference he gave at noon, the Iraqi ambassador in Athens announced that Baghdad will use chemical weapons if it is attacked by the United States or Israel. The Baghdad authorities claim that they expect an attack from Israel with planes that will be bearing the U.S. insignia.

Israel has not only rejected the charge as unfounded but declared through Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir that it may be the next Iraqi target.

Diplomat Says U.S. To Be Hit 'Where It Hurts'

JN0908173290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1612 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Ankara, 9 Aug (INA)—An Iraqi diplomat said he holds the United States responsible for tension in the Arab Gulf region.

In an interview published by the newspaper TURKISH DAILY NEWS [name of paper as received], Tariq 'Abd-al-Jabbar Jawad, Iraqi ambassador to Turkey, stressed

that Iraq will hit the United States where it hurts, in the event it is subjected to any aggression.

The ambassador expressed his resentment over Turkey's participation in implementing the embargo on Iraq. He said the oil pipeline is a joint investment between the two countries and that this pipeline was built on mutual trust and reciprocal guarantees. He added that Iraq will not be affected by the crisis, which will not last more than three months. He affirmed that Iraq will reassess its relations with the states that implement the boycott.

Diplomatic Missions in Kuwait 'Illegal'

JN0908164390 Baghdad INA in English 1558 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 9, INA—IRAQI NEWS AGENCY has learnt that the Foreign Ministry circulated a memorandum to the foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Iraq.

The Foreign Ministry memorandum informed the diplomatic missions in the city of Kuwait that their missions there had no official tasks with the Iraqi Government headquartered in the capital Baghdad following establishment of the full merger unity between Iraq and Kuwait on August 8, 1990.

The ministry requested the governments of the diplomatic missions in Iraq to take the necessary measures to liquidate works of their diplomatic missions in Kuwait and move them to Baghdad at a date not exceeding August 24, 1990.

The ministry pointed out that the diplomatic and consulate missions of the former regime abroad and the tasks and duties they were carrying out were no longer having an official status and became illegal since the proclamation of the full merger unity.

Government Urges Kuwaitis To Return To Work

JN1008091290 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0848 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Statement issued by the Presidential Office]

[Text] Noble sons of Kuwait, al-Jahrah, and al-Nida': Now that God Almighty ha helped you remove the symbols of evil, corruption, d treachery of the al-Sabah family in your free, glorious uprising on 2 August, and after you regained your genuine Arab face and real freedom, it is time for every concerned citizen to play his honorable role to serve the homeland and build its future in this critical phase for our Arab nation.

Therefore, we urge citizens to resume work and to report to their departments. Anyone who does not report to work will be considered dismissed from service and will lose all rights.

[Signed] Ahmad Husayn, director of the Presidential Office.

[Dated] 19 Muharram 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 10 August 1990.

Paper Assails Egyptian Journalists, U.S. 'Agents'

JN1008093690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has said that some Egyptian journalists who are currently vomiting the poison that results from their role as agents and from bribery and political corruption are too small to spoil the awareness of the Egyptian people and too mean to influence any honorable Arab.

In its editorial today, under the headline "Those Small Hirelings," the paper says: The nation is watching with pain and denunciation those who allow the foreigners to dirty the Arab land and who agree to turn the countries under their rule into U.S. military bases and dens of aggression on Arab soil.

AL-THAWRAH adds: They are trying to justify and give false legitimacy to the U.S. and Zionist military invasion that is being prepared against Iraq, the Arabs' symbol of honor.

By playing this role, says the paper, these people openly stand with the foreigner against their people and nation.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The Iraqis and the Arab nation are watching the suspicious and condemned positions and roles that they have accepted. The punishment will not long be delayed, although the road for them to abandon their deviation is still open. The Croesus of Kuwait is an example for those who want to learn.

The paper noted that some hireling and agent pens in the Egyptian press have allowed themselves to become a voice of treason for the covetous foreigner. By doing so, these pens are exposing themselves and using the same political language used by the Zionist and imperialist news media.

The paper adds: Had those writers stood by their people in Arab Egypt they would have remembered that Croesus' money was piled in foreign banks and was used for his vulgar entertainment and his partisans' scandals while 55 million Egyptians were suffering from poverty. Of Croesus money, the Egyptian received only enough to spread corruption and immorality. This money never reached the poor or those who were defending their homeland. It reached the enemy that is occupying Palestine and the Arab land, either directly or through Washington, the backer of Tel Aviv and every agent, corrupt ruler.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that neither all the U.S. and Zionist fleets and planes nor all the agents and traitors can shake a palm tree in al-Basrah or Kuwait. Iraq is ready for the battle, whether the enemies—all the enemies—threaten to use their force or actually use it. Iraq and all its people and nation are in one position. The

battle calls for sacrifice and the blood of the martyrs of Iraq and the free Arab men will burn the enemies, and Iraq will continue to be dignified and a source of pride for all Arabs.

AL-THAWRAH values highly the honorable and dignified position of our Arab people in Palestine, Libya, Jordan, Yemen, Tunisia, and Mauritania, and all Arab liberals. This is a just position that will be recorded by history as a popular pan-Arab will blessing Iraq's new victory and declaring support for Iraq in its honorable battle for the freedom and unity of its people, soil, and waters as well as for the nation's will, dignity, and role.

The paper condemns the open aggression perpetrated by the United States and its Zionist allies against Iraq and the Arab nation.

In a disgraceful aggression against the popular Iraqi and Arab will, the paper says, U.S. fleets and plane squadrons are now moving. Treason is backing the colonialists, and the Zionist enemy is playing a role in the conspiracy and aggression. The bats and ravens find no excuse to justify this but to say that it aims at defending the agent, corrupt Croesus, although this rotten, worn-out excuse cannot serve as a fig leaf for anyone, nor can it cover all this international hypocrisy, which is trying to put a legitimate mask on the ugly face of the United States as it tries to conquer the people's will by brute military force. But legitimacy and justice have always served peoples' freedom and honest decisionmaking. Corruption and agents of others, on the other hand, will end up in the dustbin of history. All agents and corrupt people who are rejected by their nations will be thrown into this dustbin, which is located in the lap of imperialism.

Ramadan Briefs Sudan's Al-Bashir on 'Conspiracy'

JN0908214290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1953 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (INA)—Sudanese President Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese National Salvation Revolution Command Council, met here tonight with Taha Yasin Ramadan, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister.

Taha Yasin Ramadan conveyed to Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir the greetings of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. He also briefed al-Bashir on the progress of the conspiracy against Iraq and the Arab nation.

The first deputy prime minister affirmed that foreign and U.S. presence on Arab lands to attack Arabs is a serious precedent. He highlighted in particular the presence of U.S. troops that support the Zionist entity on a daily basis to enable it to expand at the expense of the Arab lands in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories.

Taha Yasin Ramadan asserted that Arab dignity must reject this presence. He added that history will record for the Arab leaders either a capitulatory position demonstrating submission to the United States or an Arab position showing a desire to vindicate honor and dignity.

Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir stressed that the presence of U.S. and other foreign troops on Arab lands is a humiliation to Arabs. He added that the Arabs are capable of resolving their problems away from U.S. fleets.

Lt. Gen. al-Bashir asked Taha Yasin Ramadan to convey his greetings to His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and his pride in bilateral ties and the president's pan-Arab positions.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Hammadi, deputy prime minister; and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo. Sudanese Foreign Minister Hasan Sahlul attended for Sudan.

Islamic Leader Urges Elimination of 'Statelets'

JN0908192390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, 9 Aug (INA)—His Eminence Shaykh As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi, leader of the Islamic Jihad Movement-Bayt al-Maqdis, has ruled that anyone who fights under the banner of the United States or the West, or facilitates their military or other actions, is siding with them against his nation and is an apostate and a friend of the infidels.

In a statement and religious edict issued here today, his eminence called for getting rid of the Gulf neighborhoods and the Sykes-Picot statelets. The following is the text of the statement and religious edict:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. There is a message for mankind: Let them take warning therefrom, and let them know that He is no other than one God: Let men of understanding take heed. [Koranic verse]

Islamic Jihad Movement-Bayt al-Maqdis

A Statement and a Religious Edict

The West wants to enjoy itself with the nation's resources, plunder its wealth, and to install Israel as a state. To achieve this objective, it seeks to fragment the nation and control its funds, some of which it gives to these worn-out families. It only gives them what they need for their homes, palaces, and cars, and whatever is sufficient to ruin virtue and dignity. This is why all the crusaders, led by the United States, have brought in their armies and fleets to prevent unity between two parts of the nation—out of their concern over the achievement of the greater unity under which we will become our own masters, restore our dignity, and get rid of the Jewish state.

In my capacity as one of the Muslims' ulema, I rule that anyone who fights under the banners of the United States or the West, helps them against his nation, or

facilitates their military or other actions, is an apostate and a friend of the infidels. And he amongst you that turns to them for friendship is of them. [part of Koranic verse]. The spirit of challenge that began to appear in the nation must rise up to reach the high point of the elimination of the defeated statelets, which have brought disgrace to the nation, forfeited sovereignty rights, and spread corruption on earth. We must get rid of the Gulf neighborhoods and the Sykes-Picot statelets. All this can be achieved under the banners of Islam and the Koran, which made us the best of peoples.

[Signed] Islamic Jihad-Bayt al-Maqdis leader As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi

Paper Hopes Arabs Will Not Join 'Enemy Camp'

JN0908120790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that Iraq has chosen the path of pan-Arab awakening and does not fear its decisions and is fully capable of making the arrogant aggressors drain the cup of sorrow.

In an editorial today, the newspaper says: Finally, history has changed its course. Geography has come into harmony with itself and nature with reality, and a large wound in the great Arab homeland has healed. The part has be returned to the whole and the branch to the root. Kuwait and Iraq have united and became a one body and one soul, just as God had wanted them to be and just as His will has been embodied in nature.

The newspaper adds: Yes. A great historical achievement was made yesterday. The will of the Arab masses—eager to achieve a united, strong national entity to embody their legitimate aspirations—defeated the will of colonialism, which has divided the Arab world into parts and done its best to weaken them and force them into a very marginal national and cultural role.

Iraq was one of those parts hurt by colonialism, which wanted Iraq—with its high population, deep-rooted civilization, and spiritual and material wealth—to be weaker than it really is, and unable to fulfill the role dictated by its national and pan-Arab responsibilities. Kuwait was thus separated from Iraq to deprive it of access to the Arabian Gulf—the kind of access that corresponds to its history, size, role, and responsibilities. Kuwait was also separated to deny Iraq part of its oil wealth, giving it to people who do not know how to take care of that wealth or use it correctly to advance the nation's awakening and build its future. Those people considered it their personal wealth, part of which they could spend on their cheap lusts and pleasures and deposit the other part with colonialism in return for protection and survival, while major Arab countries were drowning in debts and others were starving.

The paper says: Those people were the dirty al-Sabah clique. However, that clique was not satisfied with this alone. The devil tempted it into becoming an obedient tool for imperialism and Zionism in conspiring against Iraq. It followed an oil policy that aimed to destroy Iraq's national economy and weaken its national currency. Furthermore, it gradually encroached on its territory and stole more of its oil wealth, undeterred by any moral principle. This action was not to the liking of the freemen of Kuwait, who revolted against that clique and requested the help of Iraq of al-Qadisiyah, which helped them and answered their call. The storm swept away the al-Sabah clique in hours and their fabricated paper structure became history. The clique then began to cry at the walls of its imperialist and Zionist masters to incite them against the Iraq of the Arabs, the Iraq of the hope of the nation—Saddam Husayn. Its masters began to assemble for evil and expect the opportunity they have been waiting for to settle accounts with this brave, courageous Iraq, which cannot be bought off, tamed, or frightened.

AL-JUMHURIYAH goes on to say: In answer to all that, and even in answer to all questions of nature, history, and geography; and in answer to the deep national question and the sincere, true pan-Arab question; the freemen of Kuwait have opted for the return of the part to the whole and the branch to the root. They have chosen the return of Kuwait to Iraq's lap in a full, merger unity—an eternal, inseparable unity. This was the dream of every sincere, thinking, and honest Arab, be he ruler or ruled. Above all, it was the dream of the Arab masses who have waited long for the days of glory, pride, and the deep pan-Arab awakening.

The paper says: In the face of the new reality and its developments, the battlefield and trenches have become determined. Colors have also become clear: White is white and black is black and there are no shades in between. The masses of the Arab nation and its good sons—rulers and ruled—have chosen their trench, which is Iraq's trench. Imperialism, led by its leader the United States, and Zionism, with its Zionist entity that is based on usurpation and terrorism, and those who have allied themselves with them and become servants to imperialism and Zionism, are all standing in the opposite trench, the trench which is hostile to and has been lying in wait for Iraq since it went beyond what they consider to be inviolable limits.

The paper explains that the conspiracies being hatched today against Iraq, for which all facades and justifications are being fabricated, are the real test of principles, individuals, forces, parties, and regimes. The choice between here or there is a serious and historic test for the courage and daring to face the enemies of the Arab nation and humanity, regardless of their size or power. Everyone must make the choice. Iraq only hopes that all will choose the camp of the [Arab] nation, and that all will refrain from joining the camp of the nation's enemy.

The newspaper stresses that the Iraq of al-Qadisiyah and the Arab knight Saddam Husayn has chosen the path of deep Arab awakening. It says: With its decision, Iraq

does not fear blame from anyone or aggression from any evil aggressor because it is fully capable of making the arrogant aggressors drain the cup of sorrow and teach them lessons they cannot forget. Their people—whose sons are being pushed into matters that do not concern them and are being used as fuel for the battle, in which they can only expect defeat, will be the first to punish them. The Arab nation's enemies, led by the United States, will not benefit from fabricating lies and stirring up fear in order to justify the aggression against Iraq. Nor will it benefit all those enemies to hide behind an international facade to justify those fabricated excuses.

The paper says: The United States' arrogance and overweaning pride and its desire to impose hegemony over the planet Earth, subject everybody to its will, and direct everyone in accordance with its illegitimate interests, is behind this ugly imperialist-Zionist mobilization. All those puppets are being moved by the fingers of a U.S. chess player. No one has the excuse to take part in this dirty U.S. game and everyone should be wise and farsighted enough not to fall into the trap and reap the thorns of defeat.

The paper adds: We are not saying this out of empty arrogance. We say it with the force of righteousness, with the power that God has given us, with the tested ability to fight, with a very high level of readiness to sacrifice, and with a mythical steadfastness until victory. We say it in the certainty of our full and clear victory and of the historic, shameful defeat of the aggressors if they get involved in aggression.

Minister on 'Great Achievements' in Oil Sector

JN0808103090 Baghdad INA in English 1030 GMT 7 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, Aug. 7, INA—Since the July 17-30 Revolution and after the victory of oil nationalization on March 1, 1973, the oil sector has witnessed great achievements which are considered as the fundamental base of economic development in Iraq.

In a recent statement to the press, minister of oil, Mr 'Isam, 'Abd-al-Rahim said that the first step of oil development started when the National Iraqi Oil Company Law was enacted to help Iraq exploit its own resources, boost its oil industry and depend on its own potentials in the service of Iraqis and the Arabs.

The minister added that the development was further enhanced when the three stages of the northern al-Rumaylah field came into operation, and al-Basrah refinery, strategic pipeline, al-Bakr port and the Iraqi-Turkish pipeline were built.

He added that the achievements made during 1989 were considered a qualitative advance of the non-ending achievements brought about by the oil sector. These in themselves embodied the unique potentials of the Iraqi people, said the minister.

He also said that according to the production plan agreed upon by OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) the oil sector was able to increase crude oil production and export of oil products.

Mr. 'Abd-al-Rahim elaborated that there are many important projects to help increase export recently completed in the Arab Gulf ports. These include building and operating the off-shore section of the al-Faw projects, building and operating the microwave system between al-Bakr and al-Faw ports, and the rehabilitation of al-Bakr port and the increase of production capacities of all oil fields, like that of al-Zubayr.

Meanwhile, the oil minister said that among those projects which were recently achieved was the extraction of oil from the west Tikrit oil field, operating the two Basra gas plants and the liquid separation plant, repairing and rehabilitation the projects which were brought to a standstill during the war.

Mr. 'Abd-al-Rahim added that his ministry built and improved dry gas networks in al-Basrah and other provinces and began providing Iraqi and foreign tankers and vessels with fuel inside Iraqi territorial waters.

Meanwhile, the minister said that the well drilling made distinguished sucess in 1989 in comparison with 1988.

As for Iraqi oil production ceiling, Mr. 'Abd-al-Rahim said that in accordance with OPEC agreements, Iraq's productin ceiling increased from 2,640,000 barrels per day during the first half of 1989 to 3,140,000 barrels per day early this year, a move which reflects the great achievements made to consolidate Iraq's economy.

He said that the ministry's future plan is to continue oil exploration to find new reserves and to develop the oil fields which are now in operation.

He explained that the production plan which was laid in accordance with the OPEC resolution was to meet local demand and complete the drive to rehabilitate exporting establishments in the Arab Gulf, like that of al-Bakr port, al-'Amiq (deep) port and to inaugurate al-Basrah lubricating refinery built at a cost of 54 million Iraqi dinars.

In the meantime, the southern oil company started operating al-Sabba [as received] oil field which has a huge oil reserve reaching more than two billion barrels.

The minister concluded that 1990 will witness the operation of all oil intallations that were not operating and put them in the service of the interest of Iraqis and the Arabs as a whole.

Islamic Jihad Members Detained, Moved to Baghdad

JN0508193390 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Aug 90

[Text] As Iranian press and officials began to issue strong condemnations of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait following their recent, noticeably moderate stand, it was learned in

the United Arab Emirates today from a source close to Lebanese Shiite groups that Iraqi forces transferred to Baghdad 16 Islamic Jihad Organization members who were imprisoned in Kuwait after being convicted of committing terrorist attacks. Demands were recently made to release these members in exchange for Western hostages held in Lebanon.

Text of Draft Constitution Dated 7 Jul

JN0108144590 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 30 Jul pp 7-10

["Text" of the draft constitution of the Republic of Iraq, dated 7 July 1990]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

"And consult them in affairs (of moment). Then, when thou hast taken a decision, put thy trust in God." [Koranic verse]

The revolution took place at 0300 on Tuesday, 17 July 1968, and was repeated, albeit differently, at 1500 on Tuesday, 30 July. Like a thunderbolt, the people started their revolution in the direction they wanted, after the power to move toward the objective had crystallized in the minds and consciences of the Ba'thists, the bearers of this noble mission. That power then developed into an organized and disciplined hurricane capable of achieving the people's objective—hence the Great July Revolution.

When the deviationist regime collapsed and was replaced by the people's authority, the Ba'thists represented the vanguard in this authority, just as they were the vanguard in rejecting every previous deviation and in leading the struggle for the success of their Revolution from the morning of 17 July to the evening of 30 July.

Ever since, the Ba'thists have led the march with faith, devotion, and courage unprecedented in modern Arab and Iraqi history. They were thus in harmony with the greatness and honor of the responsibility and the nobility of the objectives and principles they upheld and for which they made great sacrifices.

Although the Ba'thists led the revolution, struggle, and Jihad during the outbreak of the Revolution and its subsequent stage, which witnessed a period of reconstruction that secured a notable and glorious place for the people and enabled them to defend their rights in all circumstances and vagaries of time; and although the Ba'thists have proven under all conditions that they are able to rally the people and the masses under Saddam Husayn's leadership and that they have succeeded where others have failed in both peace and war; and although the great Iraqi people have believed in the Ba'thists' leadership because it has been proven by experience, still, neither the Ba'thists nor the people's leader Saddam Husayn are of the type who shut themselves from life or from the need to move and interact. Nor were they ever carried away by their successes and victories, including the glorious historic victory in Saddam's al-Qadisiyah, to prevent them from interacting with and staying close to their people or slipping into the pitfalls of individualism and narrow-mindedness.

The July Revolution took place and the government departments it set up remained open to all qualified people who believed in the progressive policy and basic principles of the new march. The march unified the various parties, including independents, with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. The state's three institutions: the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary, in addition to the higher positions of authority, included righteous citizens from all trends and parties alongside the Ba'thists.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party played its responsible role and assumed its sacrifices and risks by carrying out the July Revolution alone without the participation of any other political party or trend. Therefore, its assumption of the leadership of the government and society is based on merit and on its ability and qualifications to assume responsibility.

The opportunity to seize power in the name of the people was not open to the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party alone. Traditionally, other parties and movements had a better opportunity because the Ba'th Party was always under pressure from past governments, which feared its obvious effectiveness and brave revolutionary struggle and considered it the most likely party to lead any revolution by the masses.

It is thus not wrong to remind our people and to record for history that malicious circles among the big powers and even among countries of this region had been plotting against and hostile toward the Arab Socialist Party for reasons connected with their fear of its role or with the implications of the Ramadan Revolution of 8 February 1963 and its Arab connections at that time.

Therefore, acting in the name of the people, the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party seized the opportunity of the blessed July Revolution—for which it alone deserves credit—led the people, and exercised authority.

It exercised its leading role on this basis and not on an oppressive basis. It also represented the people in accordance with the responsible viewpoint of its leadership without the guarantee of a constitution and without acting in any way superior to the other parties that shared this responsibility in subsequent stages.

Although our people made no pressing demands for a system of government different from what it had been under the July Revolution, as was the case in other countries, they continued to place their trust in its right and trustworthy place; that is in the Ba'th Party and in their son and leader Saddam Husayn, who have continued to serve as the conscience of the people, serving their interest and expressing their aspirations. Thus, the constitution, with its new provisions, including the election of the president of the country by direct secret ballot for the first time in Iraq's modern and ancient history, the transfer of the responsibilities of the Revolution

Command Council, and the great trust that this leading and struggling institution has assumed over the past 22 years, to new institutions defined by the constitution, and the permission to form new parties—all of which reaffirms the ability of the Ba'th Party and the people's son Saddam Husayn to interact with life and lead it successfully, so the great Iraqi people will remain in the vanguard of responsibility for running their own affairs correctly in fulfillment of their own objectives and the objectives of the Arab nation in accordance with the principles of the Great July Revolution and its great potential for continuous development.

Chapter 1
The Republic of Iraq

Article 1:
Iraq is a sovereign, independent state. The system of government in it is republican presidential.

Article 2:
Iraq is part of the Arab homeland, and seeks to achieve comprehensive Arab unity.

Article 3:
The people are the source of authority and its legitimacy, and exercise it through its representatives or through referendum.

Article 4:
The territory of Iraq is an indivisible whole, and any part of it shall not be ceded for any reason and under any circumstances.

Article 5:
Islam is the official religion of the state.

Article 6:
The Iraqi people consist of Arabs and Kurds. The constitution acknowledges the Kurds' national rights and guarantees the legitimate rights of all Iraqis within the unity of the homeland, state, and society.

Article 7:
Arabic is the official language. Kurdish shall be an official language in addition to Arabic in the autonomous region.

Article 8:
Baghdad is the capital of Iraq.

Article 9:
First: The flag, emblem, and national anthem of Iraq shall be defined by law.

Second: The national day is the 17th day of July, the anniversary of the great 17-30 July Revolution.

Article 10:
The political system in Iraq shall be based on democracy and socialism in accordance with the people's interests and opinion, in a way that guarantees social justice and economic freedom based on the prevention of exploitation.

Article 11:
Iraq consists of administrative units, whose affairs are governed by the law.

Article 12:
The region, where the majority are Kurds in Iraq, shall enjoy autonomous rule as defined by law within the framework of Iraq's legal, political, and economic unity, and the unity of its people.

Article 13:
Iraqi citizenship and its regulations are governed by law.

Article 14:
First: The Armed Forces is the shield of the homeland and its great sword. Their task is defending its territory, independence, and sovereignty, and safeguarding its unity and security.

Second: The state is the only side that shall build the Armed Forces. No side, other than the state, shall be permitted to build military or semi-military formations, or armed organizations.

Article 15:
Iraq honors the principles of international law, abides by the UN Charter, upholds the principles of good neighborliness, supports international cooperation and the promotion of cordial relations among states, and adheres to the principle of noninterference in internal affairs and settling conflicts through peaceful means on the bases of equality, mutual interests, and reciprocal dealing.

Chapter 2

The Legal, Social, and Economic Bases of the Republic of Iraq

Section 1

The Legal Bases

Article 16:
Authority in Iraq is exercised in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and laws. Each law must not conflict with the constitution.

Article 17:
Law shall govern all relations and actions in society.

Article 18:
State institutions shall abide by the law and enforce it honestly in their work and actions in a manner that achieves the supremacy of the law.

Article 19:
First: Regulations shall be issued to facilitate the enforcement of laws, and must not conflict with them.

Second: Guidelines shall be issued to explain the method of enforcing the law or regulations, and must not conflict with them.

Article 20:

The law shall not have retroactive force unless stipulated therein. This exception does not apply to criminal laws, tax laws, and fines unless they are in favor of the accused or the taxpayer.

Article 21:
The laws, regulations, and the guidelines related to them shall be published in the official gazette, and shall be effective as of the day of their publication, unless stipulated otherwise.

Section 2

The Social Bases

Article 22:
First: Social solidarity is the main foundation of society. Its essence is that every citizen shall carry out his full duty toward society, and society shall guarantee the citizen's full rights and freedom insofar as it does not conflict with society's interests under the provisions of the constitution and the law.

Second: Society shall work to emphasize the high values of social harmony insofar as it prevents disseminating sectarian, racial, regional, or anti-Arab ideas and methods.

Article 23:
First: The family is the nucleus of society, and the state shall work to raise the family in accordance with the noble values and concepts of Iraqi society, which are derived from its heritage and cultural values and from the genuine and deep-rooted values of the Arab nation's heritage, and to guarantee protecting it and supporting its ethical and national potential. The state shall also care for maternity and childhood.

Second: Members of the one family shall take care for and respect one another in accordance with society's genuine and deep-rooted values and within the framework of the rights and duties decided by the law. Sons shall respect parents' rights and provide parents with full care.

Article 24:
Defending the homeland and preserving its integrity are a sacred duty of honor for the citizen.

Article 25:
First: Martyrdom for the sake of the homeland, the nation, and the people's principles is an honor and an act of great value, of which the state and society shall work to reinforce its patriotic, national, social, and ethical implications.

Second: The state shall care for and honor the families of martyrs and give them priority, privileges, facilities, and job opportunities in accordance with law. The state shall also take care of war veterans and those wounded in war.

Article 26:
Military service is compulsory, and the law shall govern the way it is performed.

Article 27:
Tax and payment of fines is a duty, and they are levied, amended, or collected only under the law.

Section 3

The Economic Bases

Article 28:
The state shall direct the national economy to uphold society's interests, protect it from exploitation, achieve economic prosperity, increase national income, raise the standard of living, and achieve Arab economic unity.

Article 29:
Natural wealth is owned by the people and shall be invested by the state in accordance with the public interest. The central authority is solely responsible for directly investing basic natural wealth such as oil, gas, and minerals.

Article 30:
Property ownership is a social function, and the law shall govern how to use it and benefit from it in accordance with the public interest and the economic and social bases defined by the constitution.

Article 31:
Public property is owned by the people, and it has a special sanctity, and the state and the citizen shall look after and protect it, and any destruction of, or encroachment on it shall be considered destruction of, and encroachment on the body of society.

Article 32:
Private property and personal economic freedom are guaranteed within the limits of law insofar as they do not damage or conflict with society's interests and the economic and social bases defined by the constitution.

Article 33:
The State shall encourage and sponsor cooperative activity.

Article 34:
First: Private property shall be withdrawn only in cases involving public interest and shall be fairly compensated for as decided by law.

Second: Private property shall not be seized or confiscated except under law or in accordance with a court ruling.

Article 35:
First: Land ownership is prohibited to foreigners, unless excepted by the law.

Article 36:
Inheritance is a guaranteed right that shall be governed by law.

Article 37:
The national currency shall be defined by law.

Chapter 3

Rights, Liberties and their Guarantees

Section 1

Rights and liberties

Article 38:
The citizens are equal in their rights and obligations before the law and enjoy its protection without distinction.

Article 39:
All defendants are innocent until proven guilty by a legal trial.

Article 40:
The right of defense in person or by mandate is guaranteed by the law.

Article 41:
Every person convicted of a crime has the right to compensation in accordance with the law if after the issuance of a the sentence it is demonstrated that a gross mistake in the administration of justice has occurred.

Article 42:
First: Any aggression against any employee or person tasked with a public duty during the performance of their duties shall be considered a crime.

Second: Any attack by a public official or by a person tasked with the performance of a public function against the liberties and the privacy of the citizens, and other liberties guaranteed by the constitution or by the law shall be considered a crime.

Article 43:
First: No person shall be arrested, detained, or imprisoned except by a decision from a judicial authority, or competent party as prescribed by law.

Second: The state shall pay fair compensation to such a person for the harm done to him resulting from the violation of any of the provisions of the above paragraph.

Third: The person who is detained, or arrested shall have the right to contact his family or his lawyer.

Article 44:
Penalties are personal.

Article 45:
There shall be no infraction and no punishment except by virtue of the law. Penalties shall be inflicted only for offenses prescribed by law at the time of their commitment. There shall be no imposition of a harsher penalty than the one prescribed by law at the time of the commitment of the crime.

Article 46:
The individual's sanctity, dignity, and honor shall be safeguarded. There shall be no arbitrary or illegal encroachment on anybody's privacy, honor, or reputation.

Article 47:
Residences shall be sacrosanct. They shall be entered or searched only in accordance with the confines and limits of the law.

Article 48:
The confidentiality of postal, telegraphic, and telephonic correspondence shall be guaranteed. It can be violated only to meet judicial and security requirements in accordance with the confines and limits of the law.

Article 49:
Citizens shall have equal opportunities to occupy state positions in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Article 50:
Work is a right, a duty, and an honor necessitated by the need to participate in building, protecting, and developing society. The state shall work to secure employment opportunities within the framework of overall economic activity. Nobody shall be forced to work without compensation.

Article 51:
The state shall provide social guarantees and care for citizens in cases of sickness, disability, or old age in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Article 52:
Public gatherings and demonstrations shall be guaranteed as long as they do not jeopardize security, public order, or the rights and freedoms of others. The law shall organize this practice.

Article 53:
Freedom of thought, opinion, and expression and the freedom to receive this through the news and cultural media shall be guaranteed. The law shall organize the practice of these freedoms.

Article 54:
Freedom of the press, printing, and publication shall be guaranteed. The law shall organize the practice of this freedom. Censorship of the press and other publications shall be imposed only in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Article 55:
Media organs shall publish their messages freely and responsibly in accordance with the principles of the constitution. They shall express trends in public opinion, contribute toward educating and directing it, preserve liberties, advocate rights and duties, take into consideration respect for Article 82 of the constitution, and not interfere in the private life of individuals in keeping with ethical principles on which society is based, the principles of the great 17-30 July Revolution, and noble values brought forth by Saddam's glorious Qadisiyah, foremost of which are the values of martyrdom, sacrifice, and giving.

Article 56:
Establishing political parties and the freedom to join them are guaranteed for the citizens and are organized

by law so that they do not conflict with the provisions of the constitution, public order, and national unity.

Article 57:
Setting up societies and the freedom to join them are guaranteed by law so that they do not conflict with the provisions of the constitution, public order, and national unity.

Article 58:
It is forbidden to establish political parties, societies, or clubs that are based on mixing religion with politics, atheism, sectarianism, racism, regionalism, or anti-Arabism, or whose target is to isolate Iraq from its natural pan-Arab membership of the Arab nation, or those that are not based on democracy in their doctrines, programs, practices, or behavior. Parties, societies, and clubs must operate publicly and must not use force or violence in their operations.

Article 59:
Any party other than the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party is banned from political or party activity in the Armed Forces and the internal security forces and from individuals joining them.

Article 60:
Establishing unions and federations and the freedom to join them are guaranteed in accordance with the law.

Article 61:
First: Parties, societies, unions, federations, and clubs are banned from receiving aid in any form or any movable or immovable property that is in conflict with the law.
Second: The state shall work to provide the necessary conditions for political parties, societies, unions, federations, and clubs to perform their activities in accordance with the law.

Article 62:
The freedom of religion and the practice of religious rites are guaranteed on condition that they do not contradict the provisions of the constitution and the law and do not conflict with public interests, order, and morals.

Article 63:
Every citizen has the right to vote, be elected, and participate in referendums and public life in accordance with the provisions of the constitution and law.

Article 64:
First: The state protects public health by combating diseases and their causes. It works to provide the citizens with medical services and their needs to prevent and cure diseases and provide medicine in accordance with the law.

Second: All state organs and individuals among the people must protect the environment from pollution and nature from damage that destroys its beauty and function.

Article 65:
The state guarantees every citizen the right to receive an education. Education is compulsory at the primary stage at least. The state will combat illiteracy in accordance with the law.

Article 66:
First: The state guarantees and supports the freedom of scientific research; it provides it with means to develop and improve it; it encourages excellence, ingenuity, and creativity in the intellectual, scientific, and educational fields.

Second: The state protects private property and the law shall organize its provisions.

Article 67:
First: The citizen's right to travel abroad or to return to the country is guaranteed. The citizen's movements cannot be restricted except in cases specified by the law.

Second: No citizen can be exiled from the country or prevented from returning to it.

Article 68:
The right to political asylum in Iraq is guaranteed. A political refugee shall not be extradited. The law shall set the conditions for political asylum and the rights of the political refugee and his duties.

The Judiciary and Public Prosecution

Article 69:
The judiciary is subject to no ruling other than the law. There shall be no interference in the affairs of the judiciary. Also, the judiciary shall enjoy liberty of decisionmaking in order to be able to carry out the judicial duties perfectly.

Article 70:
The president of the Republic shall see to it that the judiciary assumes its responsibilities in keeping with the law and to establish justice.

Article 71:
The judiciary shall observe the establishment of justice through implementing the law out of an understanding of the essence of justice and human relations in the pertinent cases at issue.

Article 72:
The judiciary shall contribute to deepening the economic and social changes through enforcing the laws in a spirit compatible with the state's economic, social, and political philosophy.

Article 73:
The purview of the judiciary applies to all persons, be they natural, corporate, public, or private, unless these are excluded by a provision of the law.

Article 74:
The right of litigation is guaranteed for everybody. The law shall explain the procedures needed to practice this right.

Article 75:

The law shall define the method for setting up courts, their types, levels, and specialties.

Article 76:
Court sessions should be open to the public unless security reasons mandate, the public prosecutor asks, or the court thinks, that these sessions should be secret, in compliance with public order or to maintain discipline.

Article 77:
Court sentences shall be issued in the name of the people.

Article 78:
Institutions and establishments inside the Republic of Iraq are obliged to obey the sentences and decisions adopted by the judiciary.

Article 79:
Special tribunals shall not be established unless the security of the state necessitates this action, and by a decision from the president of the Republic. These special tribunals shall be dismantled once the purpose for which they were set up has ended.

Article 80:
The public prosecutor shall assume the responsibility of society to defend justice, protect legitimacy, and maintain public order. The public prosecutor shall also safeguard the security and funds of the state, and protect families, individuals, and freedoms.

Chapter 4

Institutions of the Republic of Iraq

Section 1:

The President of the Republic

Article 81:
The president of the Republic is the head of the state, the symbol and leader of the people, and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Also, he is the one watching over the protection of the homeland, safeguarding national independence, enforcing and respecting the constitution, the sovereignty of the law, the protection of national unity, the security of the country, and ensuring the good performance of the state's judicial, executive, and legislative bodies.

Article 82:
The people shall elect the president of the Republic by direct public secret ballot. The law shall regulate the procedures of electing the president of the Republic.

Article 83:
The person to be elected as president of the Republic should meet the following conditions:

First: He should be an Iraqi by birth, from two Iraqi parents by birth, and of non-foreign extraction.

Second: He should be legally competent, and not less than 40 years old.

Third: He should be a believer, known for justice, impartiality, courage, wisdom, resourcefulness, and distinguished service to the homeland and nation.

Fourth:

1. He should be a believer in the principles and objectives of the 17-30 great July Revolution. In addition, he ought to have made effective, distinguished contributions to the glorious Saddam's al- Qadisiyah, whether through participation, volunteering, or donation in the fields of action, production, or through his intellectual, literary, tactical, or political participation, according to his capabilities and powers. He should also believe that the glorious Saddam's al-Qadisiyah has imparted glory to Iraq and the Arab nation, and that it is the only road to safeguard Iraq's lands, waters, airspace, security, and sanctities.
2. He should be a believer in socialism, and appreciate socialist, democratic practice.

Article 84:
First, the elections for the president of the Republic shall begin 70 days before the end of the current presidential term. The Shura [Advisory] Council shall announce the beginning of these procedures. Nominations shall be submitted to the Council within 10 days after the beginning of the procedures. The Council announces the names of candidates who meet the required conditions within 20 days after the end of the period allocated to submit nominations. The new president shall be elected by no more than 10 days before the end of the period allocated for the procedures.

Second, the Shura Council shall ensure that candidates meet the required conditions. It shall supervise the procedures to elect the president of the Republic and announce the election results. It shall also resolve on election complaints and, for that purpose, the Council shall set up a committee chaired by the Council speaker and comprising 10 Council members elected by the Council. The committee shall submit its recommendations, which are taken by agreement or majority, provided the opinions of those opposing are noted, to the Council to discuss, approve, and declare.

Third, the elected president is the person who wins the absolute majority of votes. If none of the candidates wins such a majority, elections shall be held again two weeks after the announcement of the election results to elect one of the two candidates who won the highest number of votes in the first round. The elected president is the person who wins the highest number of votes in the second round.

Fourth, if there is only one candidate, elections will be held and the candidate is considered an elected president if he wins the absolute majority.

Article 85:
First, the president of the Republic takes, within one week after the elections results are announced, the constitutional oath before a joint session of the Shura

Council and the National Assembly chaired by the Shura Council speaker as follows: "I swear by God Almighty, and by my honor and belief, to protect Iraq's independence, well-being, and territorial integrity; defend the republican system; abide by the principles of 17-30 July Revolution and the constitution and laws; protect the people's interests; and work devotedly and sincerely to preserve the people's dignity, pride, and happiness, and achieve the Arab nation's goals of unity, freedom, and socialism."

Second, in case one of the two bodies is not in existence, the president of the Republic takes the constitutional oath before the existing body.

Third, in case neither of the two bodies is in existence, the president of the Republic takes the constitutional oath before the Council of Ministers.

Article 86: The president's term of office is eight years, renewable, beginning from the day when the president of the Republic takes the constitutional oath.

Article 87: The president of the Republic is the chief of the executive. He can assume the post of the prime minister. The president of the Republic exercises executive power directly or through the Council of Ministers.

Article 88: The president of the Republic exercises his authority by issuing orders, resolutions, or presidential decrees.

Article 89:
The president of the Republic shall:

First, safeguard Iraq's independence, and territorial integrity and protect its internal and external security.

Second, ensure the enforcement of the constitution and supervise the proper implementation of laws and decisions.

Third, draw up the state's general policy and supervise its implementation.

Fourth, supervise the proper conduct of the judiciary to ensure that justice is done within the community and that the verdicts issued by the judiciary are implemented.

Fifth, protect the rights and freedoms of citizens and supervise the proper performance of their duties.

Article 90:
First, the president of the Republic shall be responsible for defense, and internal as well as external security affairs.

Second, the president of the Republic declares general mobilization and the use of armed force when necessary to defend the homeland, and national, and higher pan-Arab interests.

Third, the president of the Republic accepts truce.

Fourth, the president of the Republic concludes reconciliation [sulh] and peace treaties which are endorsed in accordance with the provisions of Article 168 of the constitution.

Article 91:
The president of the Republic proposes bills and issues them in accordance with constitutional procedures.

Article 92:
First, the president of the Republic may appoint one vice president or more than one. Vice presidents shall take the constitutional oath contained in Article 157 before the president.

Second, the president of the Republic specifies the tasks and duties of his vice presidents. He may relieve them of their posts. They are directly accountable to him as regards the performance of their duties.

Third, the provisions contained in Article 149 and paragraph (First) of Article 150 of the constitution shall be enforced on vice presidents.

Article 93:
The president of the Republic appoints the prime minister, deputy prime ministers, and ministers. Likewise, he may relieve them of their posts.

Article 94:
The president of the Republic:

First, designates and approves diplomatic representatives.

Second, receives credentials of diplomatic representatives.

Third, conducts negotiations and concludes international treaties and agreements in accordance with the constitution.

Article 95:
The president of the Republic appoints judges, members of the Public Prosecution Office, civilian state employees of special grades, and officers of the Armed Forces, internal security, and external security. He also terminates their services in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Article 96:
The president of the Republic bestows military ranks, medals, decorations, and national titles.

Article 97:
The president of the Republic may commute death sentences as well as detention and prison terms. He may also issue a special pardon. As for general amnesty, it is granted in accordance with the writ of the law.

Article 98:
The president of the Republic may seek the opinion of the people regarding draft laws and important issues concerning the country's supreme interests. The outcome of referendums with absolute majority is binding.

Article 99:

First: In case of a danger posed to the security of the country or its independence, safety, or national integrity, the president of the Republic may issue, within a period of not more than six months after the emergence of the danger, orders or decrees with the force of law to avert this danger. The president may also declare a state of emergency in Iraq or in any part of it. The state of emergency shall by governed by the law.

Second: While a state of emergency is declared, and within the boundaries of the area under a state of emergency, it is admissible, through a decree issued by the president of the Republic, to suspend temporarily the validity of the clauses of Articles 43, 47, 48, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, and 67 of the constitution.

Article 100:
In case of the need for the adoption of measures that tolerate no delay—in cases other than those mentioned in Article 100 [as published] of the constitution—the president of the Republic may issue decrees with the force of law. These decrees shall be submitted to the Shura Council within 60 days of the date of their issuance. These decrees shall follow the procedures explained in Clauses Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth of Article 120 [as published] of the constitution.

Article 101:
In case of an armed dispute, the president of the Republic may issue the laws he deems necessary. He may adopt any decisions and arrangements he deems necessary to consolidate the country's combat capability, public mobilization, and general call to arms in all military and civilian domains.

Article 102:
For reasons of public interest, or for humanitarian reasons, or for purposes of achieving justice and equality, or to address special cases ignored by the valid laws, regulations, guidelines, and procedures, or to reward creative persons and those who offer great or outstanding services, the president of the Republic may:

First: Issue effective decrees that constitute an exception to the valid laws, regulations, guidelines, and procedures.

Second: Grant whatever he desires of gifts, aid, cash or other rewards, plots of land, or houses owned by the state.

Article 103:
For national, pan-Arab, or human purposes, the president of the Republic may grant gifts, aid, cash or other rewards to non-Iraqi states, organizations, or persons.

Article 104:
During his term, the president of the Republic is not allowed to be engaged in commercial or industrial businesses, or to buy from the properties of the state for commercial purposes or to sell from his properties to the state.

Article 105:
First, in case the post of the president of the Republic is vacant for any reason whatsoever, the duties of the president of the Republic are assumed temporarily by a presidential council comprising the Shura Council speaker, the National Assembly speaker, and the prime minister, who shall continue to assume their original duties. The presidential council is chaired by the eldest of the three. If the president of the Republic was assuming the post of prime minister, the most senior deputy prime minister assumes the post of acting prime minister and becomes a member of the presidential council.

Second, the presidential council exercises the powers of the president of the Republic with the exception of those listed in Articles 93, 94, 99, 103, 104, and 120. The presidential council does not have the right to dissolve the Shura Council or the National Assembly or recommend an amendment to the constitution. The presidential council takes its decisions unanimously.

Third, a president for the Republic shall be elected within 70 days from the day the post of president becomes vacant in accordance with Article 85 of the constitution.

Article 106:
In case the post of the president of the Republic becomes vacant while the Shura Council is not in existence, for any reason, the National Assembly assumes the duties of the Shura Council stipulated in Article 85 of the constitution regarding the election of the president of the Republic.

Article 107: During the period when the post of the president of the Republic is vacant, the institutions of the Republic of Iraq shall continue to carry out their prescribed duties. The constitution cannot be amended during that period.

Article 108: The president of the Republic informs, in writing, the Shura Council and the People's Assembly of his resignation or any of the two bodies if the other is not in existence.

Section 2:

The Shura Council

Article 109:
The Shura Council is the body that the president of the Republic consults on important political, economic, legal, social, cultural and other issues; on everything related to preserving the march of the Great 17-30 July Revolution and means to improve it; on issues related to the country's security, national unity, and vital interests, and to the public interest; and on pan-Arab issues. The Council legislates laws in accordance with the rules stipulated in the constitution.

Article 110:
The Shura Council shall consist of 50 members. The president of the Republic appoints 25 members, and the

other 25 members are elected directly and freely in a general secret ballot. A law shall determine the way elections are held.

Article 111:
The president of the Republic appoints the 25 members of the Shura Council after the election results for the other 25 members are announced and within a period specified by law.

Article 112:
The Shura Council's term in office is five calendar years beginning from its first session and ending with the end of the fifth year. A new Shura Council shall be set up within 60 days of the end of this period.

Article 114:
The Shura Council has the right to obtain information or clarifications from the chairman of the Council of Ministers, his deputies, and the ministers, so as to facilitate the accomplishment of its tasks as stipulated in the Constitution.

Article 115:
It is impermissible to prosecute or detain a Shura Council member for a crime without a warrant from the president of the Republic, unless the member is caught red-handed. According to this article, the warrant of prosecution or detention revokes the member's immunity.

Article 116:
First, it is impermissible to combine a membership in the Shura Council and the National Assembly.

Second, it is impermissible to combine a membership in the Shura Council and the post of the vice president of the Republic, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, a minister, or any post in the state.

Third, the president of the Republic may assign special tasks to the members of the Shura Council.

Article 117:
The president of the Republic has the right to dissolve the Shura Council if he deems it necessary. The reasons for doing so should be enclosed with the decision. In that case, a new Shura Council shall be set up according to the method stipulated by the Constitution within a period not exceeding 90 days.

Article 118:
First, the Shura Council shall consider the bills referred to it by the president of the Republic when the National Assembly is not in session within an appropriate period from the date of receiving these at the Shura Council speaker's office, unless the president of the Republic asks for considering these within a specified period.

Second, if the Shura Council approves the bill, then it refers the bill to the president of the Republic so as to issue it.

Third, if the Shura Council rejects or introduces amendments to the bill, then it should refer the bill to the president of the Republic explaining the reasons for rejection or amendment.

Fourth, if the president of the Republic approves the amendment, then he shall issue the bill in its amended form. If the president of the Republic, however, insists on the bill in its original form, or refuses to accept the decision of rejection, then he shall refer it back to the Shura Council to consider its legislation stating the reasons.

Fifth, if the Shura Council approves the bill in its original form, then it shall refer the bill to the president of the Republic to issue it. If the Shura Council insists on its decision of rejection or amendment, which, in this case, should be made by the majority of two-thirds of the members who are present, then its decision, along with the reasons, should be referred to the president of the Republic. In this case, the president of the Republic may drop the bill, issue it in its amended form, or dissolve the Shura Council.

Article 119:
First, if the Shura Council was not in existence for any reason and the National Council was not in session, the president of the Republic may issue decrees by law, subject to the condition that they will be referred to the Shura Council when it convenes.

Second, if the Shura Council approves the decree, then it is considered an ordinary law.

Third, if the Shura Council does not approve the decree, it shall refer the decree to the president of the Republic stating the reasons for nonapproval. If the president of the Republic does not accept the Shura Council's decision, he shall refer the decree back to the Shura Council to consider its legislation, stating the reasons for this.

Fourth, if the Shura Council approves the decree, it is considered an ordinary law. But if the Shura Council insists on nonapproval, which in this case should be adopted by the majority of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting, then it shall refer its decision, along with the reasons, to the president of the Republic. The president of the Republic, in this case, may approve the decision or dissolve the Shura Council.

Fifth, when the decree is finally not approved, its effects will be eliminated retroactively, taking into account that the rights others have acquired by virtue of this decree should not be violated.

Article 120:
The Shura Council has two sessions a year lasting eight months defined by its internal system.

Article 121:
First: The president of the Republic can extend the Shura Council's session an extra month only to allow it to perform the duties that called for the extension of the session.

Second: The Shura Council can, through a decision by the majority of its present members, extend the session an extra month only to perform the duties that called for the extension of its session.

Section 3

The National Assembly

Article 122:
The National Assembly includes the elected representatives of the people. It assumes the task of legislating laws and oversees the activities of the ministries as is indicated in the Constitution. The president of the Republic can discuss any affair of state whenever necessary with all or some members of the National Assembly.

Article 123:
The National Assembly consists of 250 members chosen through free and direct elections in secret public voting in accordance with the law.

Article 124:
The National Assembly's term is four calender years starting with its first meeting and terminating with the end of the fourth year. A new council is elected within 60 days of the end of this period.

Article 125:
The National Assembly convenes for two sessions a year lasting four months.

The law defines the method of convention. The session convening to discuss the state general budget cannot be prorogued until after the budget is approved.

Article 126:
First: The president of the Republic can extend the National Assembly session an extra month only to realize the duties that called for extending the session. He can also call the Assembly to convene in an extraordinary session whenever necessary. The meeting will be restricted to the topics that necessitated calling for its convention.

Second: The National Assembly can, through a decision taken by the majority of its present members, extend the session an extra one month to carry out the duties that called for extending the session.

Article 127:
The National Assembly is called to convene by a republican decree during a period not exceeding 15 days from the date on which the election results are announced.

Article 128:
First: A National Assembly member cannot be prosecuted or arrested for a crime during the National Assembly session without a warrant from the National Assembly speaker, unless he is caught red-handed.

Second: A National Assembly member cannot be prosecuted or arrested for a crime when the National Assembly is not in session without a warrant from the National Assembly speaker unless he is caught red-handed.

Third: The warrant to prosecute or arrest, in accordance with this article, revokes the member's immunity.

Article 129:
First, there may be no combination between National Assembly membership and the positions of vice president, prime minister, deputy prime minister, minister, special grade official, or administrative unit head.

Second, the National Assembly member loses his Assembly membership if he is appointed to any of the positions or posts mentioned in paragraph (First) of this article.

Article 130:
The president of the Republic may dissolve the National Assembly when necessary. The dissolution decision shall contain the reasons for dissolution. Then, a new assembly is elected in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Constitution within a period not exceeding 90 days.

Article 131:
First, the National Assembly shall consider the bills submitted by the president of the Republic within a reasonable period of time from the date they are received at the speakership office, unless the president of the Republic asks that they be discussed within a specific time limit.

Second, if the Assembly approves a bill, the bill is referred to the Shura Council for consideration. If the Shura Council endorses the bill, the bill is referred to the president of the Republic to have it issued.

Third, if the National Assembly rejects or amends a bill, the bill is referred to the Shura Council for consideration. If the rejection or amendment is endorsed, the bill is submitted to the president of the Republic, explaining the reasons for rejection or amendment. If, then the president of the Republic rejects the amendment and insists on his bill, the Shura Council and the National Assembly meet in a joint session. The bill, having been endorsed by a two-thirds majority of the attending members of the two bodies is submitted to the president of the Republic for issuance. In this case, the president of the Republic may drop the bill, issue the bill with the amendments incorporated into it, or dissolve the two bodies, or any one of them.

Fourth, if a difference emerges between the National Assembly and the Shura Council over rejecting or amending the bill, the two bodies meet in a joint session. And in this case, the following applies:

1. The original bill, if endorsed by the majority of the members of the two bodies attending, shall be deemed approved and final and submitted to the president of the Republic for issuance.

2. The rejected or amended bill, which must in this case enjoy the support of two-thirds of the attending members of the two bodies is considered as approved. Then, it is submitted to the president of the Republic for consideration.

3. In this case, which is covered by (2) in this paragraph, the president of the Republic may send the bill or the decision made on it by the two bodies in their joint session back to them for reconsideration, supplying the reasons for this move. The decision made by two-thirds of the attending members of the two bodies, whether accepting, amending, or rejecting the bill, is then submitted to the president of the Republic for consideration. In this case, the president of the Republic may drop the bill, issue the bill with the amendments incorporated into it, or dissolve the two bodies, or any one of them.

Fifth, if it is impossible to win the required two-thirds support for rejecting or amending the bill as explained in Paragraph 3 or in Paragraph 4, Clause 2, of this article, the original bill is put to the vote. If it is approved by a simple majority, it is submitted to the president of the Republic for issuance. Otherwise, the issue is brought to the attention of the president of the Republic. In this case, he may drop the bill, or dissolve any of the two bodies or both of them.

Sixth, the president of the Republic may withdraw the bill that he has already submitted to the National Assembly and which has not been discussed by the Assembly during its session in which the bill was submitted and submit the bill to the Shura Council to consider issuing legislation on it.

Article 132:
First, the National Assembly considers the bills submitted by 30 of its members.

Second, if the Assembly rejects the bill, its decision is final. In this case, the bill cannot be submitted again in any of two sessions of the same year.

Third, if the Assembly approves the bill, the bill is then referred to the Shura Council for discussion. If the Shura Council approves it, it is referred to the president of the Republic. The president of the Republic may issue the bill or return it to a joint session of the bodies noting the reasons for returning it. The bill that wins the approval of two-thirds of the members of the two bodies attending the session is referred to the president to consider issuing it. In such a case, the president of the Republic may issue the bill or dissolve one or both bodies.

Fourth, if the Shura Council rejects, or amends, the bill, the two bodies meet in a joint session. In such a case:

1. The bill that wins the approval of two-thirds of the members of the two bodies attending the session is adopted, whether in its original or amended form. The bill is then referred to the president of the Republic to consider issuing it.

2. A decision taken by a two-thirds majority of the members attending the session to reject the bill is final.

3. In the case stipulated in Clause 1 of this paragraph, the president of the Republic can return the bill to a joint session of the two bodies for consideration, noting the reasons for returning it. The decision taken by two-thirds majority of the members of the two bodies attending the session to accept or amend that bill is referred to the president to consider. In such a case, the president of the Republic can issue the bill or dissolve one or both bodies.

Fifth, if the two-thirds majority is not achieved to approve the bill during the joint session explained in Paragraph 3 and Paragraph 4, Clause 1, the bill is considered nullified.

Sixth, National Assembly members are not allowed to submit bills concerning defense, security, amending the Constitution, amending the powers of the President of the Republic, or amending the National Assembly law.

Article 133:
At the suggestion of 20 National Assembly members, with the Assembly's approval, and after asking the president of the Republic for permission, the Assembly can summon the Prime Minister to question him about any issue related to his duties other than defense and security.

Article 134:
If the National Assembly is not satisfied with the explanations offered by the prime minister, it can—at the request of 30 of its members, with Assembly's approval and after asking the president of the Republic for permission—submit, through the Assembly speaker, an interpellation to the prime minister, detailing the dereliction or negligence attributed to him. The discussion takes place at least seven days after the prime minister is informed of the interpellation.

Article 135:
If, as a result of the interpellation, the National Assembly finds dereliction or negligence on the part of the prime minister in carrying out his duties, the National Assembly can, with the majority of two-thirds of its member, submit a recommendation to the president of the Republic to relieve the prime minister of his post. And the president of the Republic may relieve the prime minister of his post, or ask that the recommendation be discussed in a joint session of the Shura Council and the National Assembly. If the two councils endorse the recommendation to relieve the prime minister with two-thirds of the members of the two councils, the recommendation shall be submitted to the president of the Republic. In this case, the prime minister may be relieved of his post or one or both bodies may be dissolved.

Article 136:
Based on a proposal by 15 members of the National Assembly and with the Assembly's consent, a member of the Council of Ministers may be summoned to the National Assembly to seek his explanation of an act,

decision, or position taken by his ministry with regard to a specific matter other than defense or security affairs.

Article 137:
If the National Assembly is not convinced by the explanations of the member of the Council of Ministers, 25 members of the National Assembly, with the Assembly's consent and after seeking the president's permission, can interpellate that member through the National Assembly speaker with regard to an act, decision, or stand he adopted or with regard to an act of negligence or dereliction attributed to his ministry. The minister shall be interpellated at least seven days after informing him.

Article 138:
If, as a result of the interpellation, the National Assembly finds dereliction or negligence on the part of a member of the Council of Ministers while carrying out his duties, the National Assembly may, with a majority of two-thirds of the members attending the session, submit a recommendation to the president of the Republic to relieve that member of the Council of Ministers of his post.

The president of the Republic may relieve the member of the Council of Ministers of his post or refer the recommendation to the Shura Council to discuss it. If the Shura Council endorses the recommendation the member of the Council of Ministers shall be relieved, and if it is not endorsed the recommendation will be considered invalid.

Article 139:
The National Assembly may form investigation committees from its members to investigate any shortcoming in government departments.

Section 4:

The Council of Ministers

Article 140:
The Council of Ministers is the executive body of the general policy of the government laid down by the president of the Republic. The Council of Ministers consists of the prime minister, his deputies, and the ministers. All of those are responsible to the president of the Republic for carrying out their tasks.

Article 141:
The prime minister, his deputies, and ministers take the constitutional oath—as stipulated by Article 157 of the Constitution—before the president of the Republic prior to beginning their tasks.

Article 142:
The Council of Ministers exercises the following powers:

First: Preparing bills and submitting them to the president of the Republic to consider their legislation in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

Second: Preparing and issuing draft rules.

Third: Following up the implementation of legislation and issuing the necessary resolutions to be implemented.

Fourth: Supervising the legitimacy of the guidelines issued by the competent minister to facilitate the implementation of the laws and rules.

Article 143:
First: The Council of Ministers shall prepare the general budget plan and the development plan.

Second: In a joint session, the Shura Council and the National Assembly shall approve the general budget, with the exception of the chapters that the president of the Republic decides should not be discussed.

Third: When necessary, the appropriations allocated in the general budget and development plan chapters shall be amended during the fiscal year in accordance with a decision by the president of the Republic, or by the Council of Ministers following the approval of the president of the Republic.

Fourth: The Council of Ministers shall ensure the proper implementation of the general budget and the development plan.

Article 144:
First: The Council of Ministers shall arrange loans following the approval of the president of the republic.

Second: The Council of Ministers shall supervise foreign economic and financial relations and affairs pursuant to instructions from the president of the Republic.

Article 145:
The Council of Ministers shall appoint the directors general, who are not of the special grade category, and other officials of the same grade category, of state departments and in the socialist sector, and the heads of the administrative units, with the exception of governors.

Article 146:
The chairman of the Council of Ministers shall chair the meetings of the Council of Ministers, and the president of the Republic shall chair the meetings of the Council of Ministers when he deems it necessary.

Article 147:
The chairman of the Council of Ministers shall give instructions to the ministers, ensure the proper performance of the ministries, and coordinate among them.

Article 148:
While in office, the chairman of the Council of Ministers, any of his deputies, or the minister shall not undertake any business, or commercial or industrial work; buy or rent anything from state property for commercial purposes, or rent or sell the state anything of his property; or conclude a contract with the state in his capacity as a bidder, importer, or contractor.

Article 149:

First: The chairman of the Council of Ministers, his deputies, and the ministers shall submit requests to relieve them of their posts to the president of the Republic.

Second: Relieving the chairman of the Council of Ministers of his post shall not lead to relieving his deputies and the ministers of their posts.

Article 150:
The Council of Ministers' meetings and deliberations shall be secret, and the Council's resolutions shall be announced and published through the media that are defined by the Council.

Article 151:
The Council of Ministers' work and the bases of its actions are governed by law.

Article 152:
The vice president of the Republic, Shura Council members, and National Assembly members; and anyone appointed to be chairman of the Council of Ministers, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, or a minister; should meet the following conditions:

First: He should be an Iraqi by birth, from two Iraqi parents by birth, and of nonforeign extraction; an Iraqi by birth, from an Iraqi father by birth of nonforeign extraction, and from an Arab mother who is of the nationality of an Arab country; or an Iraqi by birth from two Arab parents who have acquired Iraqi citizenship before his birth.

Second: He should be legally competent.

Third:

1. He should believe in the principles of the Great 17-30 July Revolution and its objectives. His contribution to the glorious Saddam Qadisiyah—whether by participating, volunteering, or donating to it; by action and production; or by cultural, scientific, mobilization, and political achievements—should be effective and distinguished and correspond to his abilities and resources. He should also believe that the glorious Saddam Qadisiyah has been imparted to Iraq and the Arab nation and that it was the inevitable way to protect the land, water, airspace, security, and sacred places of Iraq.
2. He should believe in socialism and observe a socialist conduct.

Fourth:

1. He should have finished military service or be exempted from service.
2. He should not have committed the crime of deserting military service.

Fifth:

1. He should not have been convicted of the crime of conspiring against the Great 17-30 July Revolution or its system, or of attempting to change the system or contacting a foreign party.
2. He should not have been convicted of a crime involving honor or murder.

Sixth, he should have educational and cultural qualifications enabling him to carry out his duties in accordance with the law.

Seventh, age:

1. At least 40 to be a Shura Council member.
2. At least 25 to be a National Assembly member.
3. At least 30 to be a vice president, prime minister, deputy prime minister, or minister.

Article 153:
When assuming and leaving office, the vice president, the Shura Council member, the National Assembly member, the prime minister and his deputies, and the ministers shall submit to the president of the Republic a statement of their financial situation. The statement must detail their movables and immovables and their origin.

Article 154:
The member of the Shura Council and the National Assembly represents the entire people of Iraq.

Article 155:
A session of the Shura Council or the National Assembly shall not be valid unless attended by two-thirds of the members of that body. Decisions shall be taken with the absolute majority of the members present, except in cases when a special majority is specified and stipulated in the Constitution. This article also applies to the joint session of the two bodies.

Article 156:
The Shura Council and the National Assembly shall each hold its first session under the chairmanship of the eldest member. Members of each body shall take the following constitutional oath before that body: "I swear by God Almighty, and by my honor and belief, to defend the republican system, abide by the Constitution and laws, protect the people's interests, safeguard the country's independence and well-being and Iraq's territorial integrity, observe the principles of the Great 17-30 July Revolution, and work devotedly and sincerely to achieve the people's goals in unity, freedom, and socialism."

Article 158:
First, the sessions of the Shura Council and the National Assembly shall be open to the public. The sessions, however, may be held in secret at the order of the president of the Republic, a decision by the speaker of the council, or a request to the president by 10 of its members, along with the approval of the council. This could also be requested by the chairman of the Council of Ministers or any of the ministers, after being permitted by the president of the Republic.

Second, the joint sessions of the two councils shall be open to the public. The sessions may be held in secret at the order of the president of the Republic, a decision by the Shura Council speaker, or at the request of 20 members of the two councils, along with approval from the joint session.

Article 159:

The Shura Council and the National Council shall convene in Baghdad. They may convene in any other place in Iraq when it is necessary, according to a decision by the president of the Republic.

Article 160:
First, the members of the Shura Council and the National Assembly shall not be questioned about the opinions and suggestions they put forward, and the facts they report about the point at issue. While in office, every member has the absolute right to free speech within the limits of the council's bylaws.

Second, when they practice free speech or report the facts while in office, members of the Shura Council and the National Assembly shall pursue precision, and report and honor the truth. They shall also observe public order, public interest, and code of ethics and conduct, away from slander or personal offense.

Article 161:
The Shura Council and the National Assembly shall decide on the soundness of the standing of their members according to the bylaws in order to guarantee the availability of constitutional and legal conditions. The membership shall be canceled by decision of the majority of two thirds of the council members.

Article 162:
The Shura Council and the National Assembly member shall not, while in office, purchase or rent any of the state's property for commercial purposes, rent or sell the state any of his property, or sign a contract with the state in the capacity of a bidder, importer, or entrepreneur.

Article 163:
The chairman of the Council of Ministers, his deputies, and the ministers, may, by a decision from the president of the Republic, attend the session of the Shura Council or the National Assembly and speak at this session. They may also seek assistance in the employees under their supervision.

Article 164:
The Shura Council and the National Assembly member shall inform the speaker of the council of his resignation, which takes effect the day it is submitted.

Article 165:
A law shall regulate the activities of the Shura Council and the National Assembly, their procedures, matters related to the service of their members, their rewards, allocations, budgets, and employees and committees.

Article 166:
According to the provisions of the Constitution, the speaker of the Shura Council shall preside over the Shura Council and the National Assembly whenever they meet in joint session.

Article 167:
Joining and endorsing international treaties and agreements is decreed by a law enacted by the Shura Council and the National Assembly, or by one or the other in the absence of either, by a two-thirds majority, if the treaties and agreements touch on one of the following issues:

1. Borders and national sovereignty.
2. Reconciliation [al-Sulh] and peace.
3. Setting up international organizations or joining them.

Article 168:
Other than the issues listed in Article 168 of the Constitution, endorsing and joining international treaties and agreements is to be decided by law enacted by the Shura Council.

Article 169:
Treaties not covered by Articles 168 and 169 of the Constitution are subject to the approval of the Council of Ministers and ratification by the President of the Republic.

Amendment of the Constitution:

Article 170:
First: The president and the Shura Council may propose the amendment of one or more articles of the Constitution stating the underlying reasons.

Second: The proposal to amend the Constitution should be initiated by no fewer than 20 members.

Article 171:
First: The constitutional amendment proposed by the president will come up before the Shura Council for debate, and if it is passed, the council will refer it to the president of the Republic for him to put to a referendum.

Second: The proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be debated by the Shura Council, and if it is passed, it will be referred to the president of the Repbulic. If it is approved by the president, he will put it to a referendum.

Third: If the president and the Shura Council fail to agree on a constitutional amendment, the president of the Republic will call a joint session of the Shura Council and the National Assembly to consider the proposed amendment. If the two houses still fail to pass it by a two-thirds majority, the president of the Republic will put it to a referendum. If the bill fails to win the two-thirds majority, it will be dropped.

Fourth: The text of the constitutional amendment, once it is passed and approved by referendum, shall be issued by the president.

Article 172:
It will not be permissible to propose a constitutional amendment prejudicial to the unity of the territory of Iraq, its presidential system, or its Arab affiliation, or change the state religion, the national day, or the text of the constitutional oath.

Provisional Regulations

Article 173:

The RCC chairman and the RCC shall continue to exercise their tasks and authority as stipulated for by the 16 July 1970 Constitution until the elected president of the Republic assumes the duties of his post. The RCC shall be considered dissolved as soon as the president of the Republic's assumes duties.

Article 174:
The president of the Republic is elected in accordance with the regulations of this Constitution within 60 days after it goes into effect. He shall take the constitutional oath as stipulated for by Article 86 of the Constitution before the RCC and the National Assembly.

Article 175:
First: The election of the president of the Republic for the first time after this Constitution goes into effect shall be supervised by a commission chaired by the National Council speaker and including as members the head of the Court of Cassation, 10 National Assembly members elected by the Assembly, and 10 from the most senior judges of the Court of Cassation. The commission shall accept nominations, supervise elections, and declare the result in accordance with the clauses of Article 85 of the Constitution. Its decisions shall be final.

Second: The commission shall specify the electoral constituencies and posts within the administrative units on practical bases, assisted in this by the specialized administrative organs. It is authorized to issue the required guidelines to organize and facilitate the election process.

Article 176:
The procedures to elect the National Assembly for the first time after this Constitution goes into effect shall be in accordance with the articles of amended National Assembly Law No. 55 for 1980 in a manner that is in line with the regulations of the Constitution.

Final Regulations

Article 177:
First: The RCC decrees that enjoy the force of law shall continue to be valid. They will be abolished or amended only through a decree by the president of the Republic.

Second: The legislation adopted before this Constitution goes into effect shall continue to be effective unless it is abrogated or amended in accordance with the rules and procedures specified by this Constitution.

Article 178:
The Court of Cassation shall scrutinize the soundness of any referendum carried out in accordance with the regulations of the Constitution, and shall declare its results.

Article 179:
The regulations of this Constitution shall be effective after receiving the people's approval through a referendum and after being published in the official gazette within a period not exceeding 15 days after the announcement of the referendum.

Correction to Iraq To Honor Kuwaiti Obligations

JN0908122090

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Baghdad To Honor Kuwaiti Financial Obligations," published in the 9 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 32: Paragraph two, first sentence make read: ...been established on 8 August 1990, the...(correcting date).

Shamir Discusses Iraqi Threat, Support for U.S.

Addresses Defense College

TA0908175890 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1548 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Address by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at the Army's National Defense College, at the conclusion of a graduation ceremony—live]

[Text] Mr. Defense Minister; Mr. Chief of Staff; the college commander; Mr. President and Rector of Haifa University; IDF [Israel Defense Forces] generals; heads of the services; graduates and families; the son of Lieutenant Colonel Hagay Qoshet, God bless his soul, who fell in the line of duty while a student at this college; officers and commanders:

I congratulate you on your graduation of the 16th class of the National Defense College. The college commanders and the national and defense systems have placed at your disposal the best available information and know-how to prepare you for your future. I am certain that you will continue to progress and climb the ladder of command and leadership in the country. What you have gained from your presence at the college this year has provided you with the maximum means and tools for success in your duties.

Today, more than ever in the past, the quality gap between Israel and its potential enemies is an essential guarantee of our deterrent capability and our potential to overcome any attempt to hurt us. That is why we must make sure that our aspiration for highest quality and excellence accompanies you at all times and under all circumstances. At the same time, I hope you imprint these qualities on your subordinates.

The history of the people of Israel has won it a reputation for stubbornness and adherence to its beliefs, for devotion to its forefathers' homeland, for its moral level, and for the indefatigable aspiration for excellence in all fields of human endeavor. The combination of these characteristics has given our nation a power to withstand and endure because of which we shall not fear or flinch from the bullies and enemies who threaten and plot against us time after time.

Today as well, we are surrounded by nations and states that have not yet accepted our presence in this part of the world and who wish to see us removed from the map of the region. Every now and then, a ruler comes along who presumes to execute that plot, where others before him have failed. The last of these is today's Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. Nine years ago we operated alone and on our own accord to prevent this leader from developing nuclear weapons, which would have enabled him to threaten us and the whole region. Looking back today, it can be said that had the international community acted then to block the road of Saddam Husayn, we could have avoided today's situation. At the same time, we support the international operation carried out under U.S. leadership to put down the Iraqi leader and deprive him of the ability to impose his tyranny and aggression on the region and the world.

This time Saddam has probably overdone it. The countries of the world, headed by the United States, were alarmed in the face of his rude and violent aggression in attacking his neighboring country, and began acting to block him. Whoever remembers the events of the 1930's certainly notes the resemblance between these two phenomena and the modus operandi of the two dictators, the one of the past and the other of today. As far as we are concerned, their similarity stands out in their hatred for the Jewish nation and their desire to eliminate it. The great difference between those dark days of the 1930's and ours, is that this time the Jewish nation has the ability and means to deter, face, and defend itself from the threat, and, if need be, to overthrow and defeat it. Our nation was then small and weak, deserted and beaten. Today, we are on the map as an independent country and a free nation that has its destiny in its own brave hands, and at nobody's mercy.

Yesterday an Iraqi spokesman declared that Israel is threatening Iraq and preparing to attack it under an alleged U.S. disguise. This is a foul lie. Baghdad, under Saddam Husayn has become the capital of lies and deceptions. This is but another lie the Iraqi Government resorts to in order to justify its aggression in the eyes of the world. Israel is a country seeking peace with all its might. It does not and will not have any military intentions against Iraq or any Arab country. At the same time, we are not disregarding the Iraqi leader's threats and aggressive intentions. His threats against us are part of his policy, which constantly and consistently, and with unlimited hatred, aspires to destroy the State of Israel. It is clear to all that Iraq has erased Kuwait from the map to steal its treasures. Undoubtedly, all this wealth will be used by Saddam Husayn, if allowed, to purchase and develop more lethal weapons and additional force and might that could enable him to continue increasing his threats and aggressiveness. The Iraqi economy has also been tapped in full to strengthen the Iraqi Army, the military potential of that country.

If the civilized world allows him to enjoy this theft for the aforementioned purposes, this will only strengthen and increase his appetite and ability to continue on his way. The Iraqi leader has wasted some $100 billion in the dreadful and bloody war with Iran, where hundreds of thousands of people were killed. The only lesson he has learned from that war is to continue threatening to attack, conquer, and kill. Those who identify with Iraq, as well as those who assist it or toy with the idea that they could profit from its policy, must be warned. We are expecting the Jordanian Kingdom and its government to behave responsibly and cautiously, without being dragged into the dangerous adventures of its eastern neighbor.

As for the PLO and its leaders: Their partisanship of Saddam Husayn has once again exposed their true face. For years they fed on Kuwaiti and Saudi money and support, and now they have double-crossed them and stood

beside the aggressor. It is high time that the heads of the countries of the world open their eyes and disengage themselves from this hypocritical and murderous organization, and expel its representatives from their territories.

Under the current state of affairs in our region and in the face of Iraq's belligerence and aggression, there is only one way and one single solution. The only thing that today can stop Saddam Husayn is a large and strong force that can block his violence and aggression. The concentration of international forces around Iraq and the sanctions imposed on it by the international community could achieve this goal. The combination of the force and determination of all those opposing the totalitarian austerity can turn into a ring of steel around Saddam Husayn that will continue tightening around him until his aggression is broken once and for all.

We are closely and constantly following the events in the Persian Gulf. The IDF is ready to face any threat or development. I want to believe that Saddam knows that an attempt to hurt us will cost him and his Army very dearly. We, however, are not looking forward to war; rather, we seek peace and coexistence with all our neighbors. As we have declared and stressed in the past, we repeat and stress now that we are always ready for peace arrangements through negotiations with all our neighbors, without exception.

Commanders and graduates, the lesson from the events of the near past, and from what is happening these days in front of our very eyes, is clear to us all: The State of Israel must be strong, unique, and united, self confident, determined in its defense, and assertive in its position. At the same time, it is ready to extend its hand for true peace, one that can ensure our security and future. Above all, the citizens of Israel must know that they have at their disposal the IDF—strong, sound, and loyal; willing and able when called upon to push dangers away or to deter and crush enemies or to assure the safety and security of the Israeli nation.

The successful Arrow launch today adds convincing proof of Israel's technological ability. From this place, I send warm congratulations to all those who are busy with this very important project.

I will conclude with wishes to the National Defense College, its leaders, trainers, and graduates. May you succeed in whatever you do and wherever you go. Thank you.

Comments to Reporters

TA0908183090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir said tonight there have not been any new developments since the latest Iraqi threat against Israel. Shamir was speaking to reporter Alan Ben-'Ami after his speech to the National Defense College, where he said the government is on alert for any changes in the Gulf crisis.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Prime Minister, can we ask you first have there been any developments at all since the Iraqi statements of last night that give cause for concern?

[Shamir] Well, I don't know any new developments. We are ready for any emergency.

[Unidentified correspondent] Is there a state of alert now in Israel?

[Shamir] It's not a state of alert, but we are ready.

[Ben-'Ami] What about the case of Jordan, sir? There have been close relations between Jordan and Iraq. Are you concerned that Jordan may become a springboard for an Iraqi attack on Israel?

[Shamir] Well, we are giving special consideration to the behavior of our neighbor, Jordan.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr. Prime Minister, there is a feeling amongst many people in the country that as a precautionary measure it might be wise to distribute gas masks and anti-chemical warfare equipment. Would you agree with that?

[Shamir] I think that all will be arranged in due time. [end recording]

Shamir Seeks To Upgrade Contacts With U.S.

TA1008064790 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Aug 90 pp 1, 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday sent a personal message to U.S. President George Bush in a bid to upgrade the level of contacts between the two countries with regard to the crisis in the Persian Gulf. [A pool report on page A1 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 10 August notes that "Jerusalem is playing down the exchanges of information and other contacts with the United States."]

The contacts so far have mainly been on the professional level, with the U.S. President abstaining from approaching the Israeli prime minister as he did approach other heads of state in the region. The Prime Minister's Office did not want to publicize the the message until a response was received from the U.S. President.

In the message, Shamir expresses his appreciation for the firm policy embraced by the United States in the face of the Iraqi aggression and explains Israel's positions on the issue.

These positions were reflected in yesterday's meeting between Foreign Minister David Levi and U.S. Ambassador William Brown. Levi said Israel appreciated the determination displayed by the President in defending Western interests in the region, but noted that this blessed policy posed a real problem to Israel, which might become Iraq's main target. This situation creates a U.S. commitment toward Israel, Levi said.

Feverish contacts on the operational level continued yesterday between Israel and the United States. The contacts are being held through the military attaches who brief each other on the developments in the Gulf. At the same time, the two countries have been drawing a very clear distinction between exchanges of information and real assistance, and Israel is not part of the group of countries cooperating to protect Saudi Arabia.

Jerusalem has been receiving encouraging reports about the U.S. position with regards to Israel's policy on the conflict. A cable sent by Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad notes Washington's understanding over the position expounded in the Knesset by Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who said that as far as Israel is concerned the move of Iraqi troops to Jordan would constitute a "casus belli" and would lead to military intervention. [passage omitted]

Arens Discusses Iraqi Chemical Threat

Considers Missiles

TA1008053690 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Aug 90 pp A1,6

["Exclusive" interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat "last night;" place not given]

[Text] [Arens] Saddam Husayn knows who he will be dealing with if he starts anything with Israel. That is why I think his threats against us are not very likely to materialize. Nevertheless, seeing that we know who we are dealing with, we are ready and prepared and we will not be caught by surprise.

[Ben-Porat] Should we infer from that we are ready to prevent or to minimize the chances of a surprise?

[Arens] We are ready to safeguard the security of our country and citizens. Even if Saddam Husayn tries to attack us, one must bear in mind that Iraq does not share a border with Israel and, according to Middle East standards, the two countries are separated by a great distance. Hence, Saddam Husayn would be forced to attack with missiles or aircraft. We are ready to tackle such a problem. We have an excellent Air Force.

[Ben-Porat] Can we also tackle missiles?

[Arens] At the moment we do not have the capacity to intercept missiles, but one need not stretch the imagination to know what we are capable of doing. There are other ways to deal with missiles.

[Ben-Porat] How is the strategic cooperation with the United States being expressed at the moment?

[Arens] There are no grounds to the lies Baghdad has spread on the matter. Everybody realizes—and it is quite inconceivable that Saddam Husayn does not—that the Americans are trying to establish a broad front that would include Arab countries such as Egypt, and that they are massing their troops in an Arab country: Saudi Arabia. Given those conditions, it is understandable that they should not be interested in including Israel in the effort, and that is why Israel is not part of this effort.

[Ben-Porat] Could you unequivocally state that Baghdad's yarn that our planes have been painted with the U.S. colors is a lie?

[Arens] It is an absolute lie, but it is not the only lie we have heard from Saddam Husayn.

[Ben-Porat] From his point of view, why should Saddam Husayn spread such a lie?

[Arens] Perhaps he is trying to evoke more unity in the Arab world. Perhaps he is trying to lure back Egypt and other Arab countries. This is the only rational motive I can think of. Some people will say that the man is not very rational and that one should not look for logical explanations where he is concerned.

[Ben-Porat] The civilian population is nervous and asking how it is going to be protected.

[Arens] There is no reason to be nervous, except for the well-known fact that we live in a region that is not one of the calmest in the world. Nevertheless, Iraq is far away from Israel, we do not share a common border, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is what it is, and Saddam Husayn knows it.

[Ben-Porat] But our citizens also see the possibility that missiles may be fired at us.

[Arens] First of all, I do not think it is very likely. Second, his missiles are not effective. I will not say that if a missile were to fall somewhere there would be no casualties, but these missiles cannot inflict significant damage. As for gases, to the best of our knowledge, he does not have missiles with gas-carrying warheads. His missiles carry explosives and are not effective. His aircraft pose a far greater threat, but our Air Force would be able to tackle and intercept them.

[Ben-Porat] But does he have gas bombs?

[Arens] I think so, but he would be very hesitant to use chemical weapons because he can imagine our reaction.

[Ben-Porat] There has been talk about distributing gas masks in Israel's central area and in Zefat. Why are they not being distributed?

[Arens] We are looking for the best way to protect the civilian population against chemical warfare. As an experiment, we distributed masks in some areas. We will continue to do that, but there is no reason to deviate from plans. If need be, we would be able to distribute masks within a very short period of time.

[Ben-Porat] Do you mean to say that this is not necessary at the moment?

[Arens] It is not necessary at the moment. The people have no reason not to be calm.

[Ben-Porat] Where is the situation in the Persian Gulf headed?

[Arens] The U.S. goal is to prevent an attack against Saudi Arabia. In other words, this is a defensive move and I do not think they intend to attack the Iraqis or to invade Kuwait. The purpose of their deployment is to protect Saudi Arabia. They are relying on the economic sanctions to force Saddam Husayn to withdraw from Kuwait.

[Ben-Porat] Do you consider a conflagration in the Gulf to be highly likely?

[Arens] The Americans are very much in control of their troops and, as far as they are concerned, I do not think there could be an accident or a misunderstanding. Can we say the same thing about the Iraqi troops? I do not know.

[Ben-Porat] Finally, the situation is not as serious as the public would have it then.

[Arens] There is no room for panic, but because we know Saddam Husayn we have been taking the necessary precautions to make sure that we are ready.

Comments on Arrow Launch

TA0908185390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The defense minister says there is no need to distribute gas masks. Minister Arens said that masks were handed out in some places on a trial basis and that when the time comes everyone will be equipped with them.

The defense minister emphasized that Israel is well prepared. I am not worried, he said, and the entire nation can likewise be calm.

Speaking to our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe, Minister Arens again denied Iraq's contention that Air Force pilots are participating in U.S. operations in the Gulf.

As for the Arrow missile launch, he said that the missile marks a great technological achievement. At this stage, the Arrow project is a promising development project, but Israel is currently counting on other methods. No one has a proper response to missiles in orbit, but we have other answers. Minister Arens expressed his conviction that Israel will procure Arrow missiles in five or six years.

Levi Discusses Iraq-Kuwait, PLO Dialogue

Assesses Threat

TA1008055690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Tzvi Lidar—live]

[Text] [Lidar] Good morning, Foreign Minister David Levi.

[Levi] Good morning.

[Lidar] We have just heard a report about intensive U.S. diplomatic activity, and before that we were told that Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly had arrived in Syria. There are of course coordinated contacts with Saudi Arabia and other Arab states, especially Egypt. Everyone is in on the game, except Israel—is that the way you see things?

[Levi] First of all, this is not the Eurovision song contest with everyone participating except us. One must take the situation very seriously, bearing in mind that Israel is concerned with its security, acts independently, and is not some country which is disconnected from the United States or from the West. Therefore, I suggest we stop this national pastime of wondering whether things are coordinated with us and why we are being left out of the game and what we have been asked to do. All these questions are totally unnecessary. I think that the citizens of Israel can feel secure on two matters: They have a large, strong, and sophisticated army which can overcome any danger. The Israeli army is not contemplating war; it is a defensive army. As for the government, it is exerting efforts to calm the situation, and it is maintaining close and constant coordination with whoever it has to.

[Lidar] I believe that the Israeli people are relatively calm regarding the military side of things, especially after the clarifications we received yesterday evening and this morning. Nevertheless, sir, my question pertains to the level of cooperation between Israel and the United States: Do we have a place in the inner circle of consultations and cooperation? Has the U.S. President already contacted the Israeli prime minister regarding this crisis, as he has most of the regional and world leaders?

[Levi] Can anyone think for a second that we would be completely out of the circle of consulations and briefings? However, that this should lead to a feeling of almost disappointment that we were not asked to act sounds a bit fantastic. People seemed to think that Israel was some sort of foreign legion base, or some sort of expeditionary or task force that was only waiting for someone to press a button so that we could go and carry out someone else's job. This is not the situation. We maintain coordination regarding the West's intentions...

[Lidar, interrupting] Could you perhaps tell us what the level of coordination is and what contacts we conduct?

[Levi] We are updated and briefed at the very highest level. Nothing beyond this is required. Israel, therefore, has repeatedly stated that Saddam Husayn's threats to it constitute a danger. Israel is taking all the necessary steps. Israel is not looking for war. Israel is satisfied with Jordanian King Husayn's statement regarding his opposition to turning his Kingdom into a launch pad for an attack against Israel, or in other words, his assertion that he will not open Jordan's borders to foreign troops on their way to attack Israel. We welcome this statement, as we had repeatedly stressed, even just recently, that although Israel seeks peace with Jordan and is interested

in continued stability there, in light of Jordan's declaration of support for Saddam Husayn a few days ago, as well as other information we had received, we made sure we informed the Jordanian king directly, and in a suitable way, that Israel would not countenance any destabilization which would be caused by any breach of the Iraqi-Jordanian border. Any changes, breaches, or foreign troop movements along this border will lead Israel to take what I would term crucial and necessary actions to safeguard its security. Jordan got our message, and we can only welcome King Husayn's announcement.

As for Iraq, Saddam Husayn's threats, which were designed to draw attention from the mess he has created out of his own aggressive and expansionist drives, were directed against Israel. Israel has and will take all measures, but has also signaled that we have no intention of attacking Iraq. This is not our goal. We desire peace. However, anyone tempted to try and act against Israel will be surprised; he will be badly beaten and will deeply regret his rashness. We are working on both levels with open eyes. There is no need to be disappointed that we are not playing this or that military role. Our security is naturally of paramount importance to us, and we will continue to act on both parameters.

[Lidar] Sir, let me return to the issue of foreign relations, with an eye to the future. You are scheduled to leave for Washington next month. To what extent has this crisis contributed to closer ties with the United States, or perhaps paradoxically to their weakening? What about the U.S. perception of Israel's strategic standing in the region?

[Levi] I think that two things have become clear in the course of these days: First of all, all those who described 'Arafat as some kind of pacifist, as a man desirous of peace who was seeking a dialogue with the United States and promised to renounce terror were let down. 'Arafat disappointed the Americans, and the Europeans also, to a great extent, because first of all he broke his promise and continued to perpetrate terror; he acted in bad faith with regard to the Americans—as we had warned them he would—and they finally realized he was lying to them and still conducting terrorist activity.

Today, 'Arafat is expressing loyalty to the current archenemy of the United States—Saddam Husayn. 'Arafat is seen hugging and supporting him; this is 'Arafat's real face. I think that there has been some sobering up even in Israel by those elements who had succumbed to some sort of bizarre charm the man has. They now see him for what he really is. Therefore, this has only helped Israel's arguments.

This does not mean we are not interested—on the contrary—we are very interested in furthering peace and in launching a dialogue with moderate Palestinian elements that do not belong to the PLO, and I have made this clear to the Americans. I think that today—and this was also made apparent in the latest message I received yesterday from the U.S. secretary of state [changes thought]...we learned something new: that the legitimate Israeli demand is now received in a more positive manner in the United States. Peace is impossible if we only solve the Palestinian problem, and let no one be deceived. Peace with the Arab countries is a must in order to remove the threat to Israel and topple the wall of enmity and hostility between us. In his letter to me, the secretary of state noted the fact that achieving peace without agreements with the Arab states is an impossibility. So there has been some improvement.

As for Israel's position, two things have been proven: First of all the danger to Middle Eastern stability comes from a different source than previously believed; not just from the Palestinian problem, which must indeed be resolved. By the way, this problem is not just Israel's baby—it must also be addressed by the Arab countries. We can resolve it by joint efforts. The real danger, however, comes from the Arab rulers who have established aggressive and hostile totalitarian regimes. They have aggressive and expansionist drives, tremendous power, that was supplied to them by the West—Iraq received the most lethal weapons from Europe even in recent months. I believe that the world has sobered up, and the justness of Israel's struggle is better understood now than ever before. We will continue doing everything necessary to strengthen our understanding with both the United States and Europe in order to eradicate these dangers, and further the peace process in order to secure Israel's safety.

[Lidar] Thank you, Foreign Minister Levi.

Warns of 'Preemptive Strike'

TA0908184790 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi has told our correspondent that Israel views the Iraqi-Jordanian border as the red line, the crossing of which will lead Israel to carry out a very strong preemptive strike. The foreign minister said: Those who try to undermine stability will be hit, surprised, and will not forget the blow. At the same time, the foreign minister emphasized that Israel seeks stability and has no interest in war.

Further on Iraqi Threat

TA1008070790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister David Levi by Gad Becker and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Excerpt] [Becker] Good morning, Foreign Minister Levi.

[Levi] Good morning.

[Becker] I would like to start by asking whether, in your opinion, the clear military threat Iraq issued to Israel has created a U.S. military commitment to Israel?

[Levi] First, one must always remember one important fact: Israel has made sure in the past, and will continue to take pains in the future to be equipped with the most sophisticated weaponry, whether these weapons are known to the West, familiar to our enemies, or locally

developed by Israel. As has been repeatedly proven in the past, these weapons are most effective. There is one new development, however: the U.S. and Western powers' action against the aggressive and expansionist acts carried out by Saddam Husayn, who had threatened and later carried out his threat to conquer countries of crucial importance to the West; their reaction to this threat to their interests exacerbates the threat to Israel. The threat has always been there. Israel has repeatedly stated that while it desires peace, anyone who attempts to harm its security will find Israel prepared and will be beaten. This was true yesterday and is also true today.

[Becker] If you say that the Western action to some extent constitutes a catalyst to the Iraqi threats against Israel, do you then conclude that there should be some U.S. responsibility to Israel at the next stage?

[Levi] I am talking about things that have already been said and heard. We must not ignore them. Anyone who is in a panic must have been living somewhere else all this time. Israel has faced constant tests since even before its inception; all the wars were forced upon it by its enemies. Israel always found itself ready and overcame every danger. Israel desires peace, and this is what we are telling all our neighbors today. We have no intentions of attacking anybody, conquering any territory, or destabilizing any regime anywhere. However, we will not countenance any threats or any movements directed against our borders, and we are taking and will take all necessary steps. As for the United States, it is clear that the fact that Israel is a moral, democratic regime in this part of the world and has always been and has remained an ally of the United States has a significance of its own, and these matters are being handled at the highest levels, in the atmosphere of mutual understanding we have always enjoyed, and which I hope shall only grow stronger.

[Becker] I imagine it is no coincidence that you did not directly answer my question?

[Levi] There are some things that are best suited for timely action, and do not call for any declarations or announcements. Just one thing must be kept in mind, however: Israel has always stressed, and this has always been what I would call its correct and healthy policy—a policy which is also true today—that it would not request or expect any foreign soldier to come and fight on its territory or on behalf of its security. We have brought our children up on the supreme value of the necessity of fighting for our country if a war is forced upon us. As for foreign forces—they are fighting for their own interests. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has always come out on top, in what I would term a surprising and admirable way, and we pray and believe that it will continue to do so in future. Even though we hate bloodshed, whoever is desirous of peace must also be ready for war. [passage omitted]

Netanyahu Praises Bush Leadership Against Iraq

TA0908182590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu discussed the government's view of the U.S. deployment of troops in Saudi Arabia:

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] I think that President Bush should be commended for effecting a successful political and economic isolation of Iraq. I think that he is demonstrating effective leadership; he is showing that he will, if necessary, use force to defend vital interests in this area and that is always good in deterring aggression and perhaps rolling it back. But it remains to be seen. You never know with someone like Saddam Husayn.

[Correspondent Le'a Zinder] Are you suggesting that, driven to desperation, he may take desperate action?

[Netanyahu] Well, it's possible always. He's threatened in the past and realized just about every one of his threats. He has now fabricated a lie about Israel. It's very clear that his purpose here is to divert or deflect an international campaign against him by turning it into an Arab campaign against Israel under his leadership. This is something that has no basis, of course, in fact because he is lying, and it's important that we use every channel and every opportunity to expose that line. [end recording]

General Shomron on Iraqi Threat, Readiness

TA0908194490 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Interview with Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of the General Staff, by anchorman Ya'aqov Ahime'ir and army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky—live]

[Text] [Shlonsky] Good evening, Mr. Chief of Staff.

[Shomron] Good evening.

[Shlonsky] How will Israel react to an attack by missiles—whether they are equipped with chemical warheads or others?

[Shomron] Regarding the chemical capability, I believe you described the situation quite accurately: We have a good chance of preventing an attack on Israel, and we have a very good capability of dealing a hard blow on anyone who might try to attack us. Combined, these two definitely offer a feeling of security.

[Shlonsky] Can you be more specific, for example what do you mean by a hard blow?

[Shomron] Naturally, I am not prepared to volunteer that information. I would, perhaps, like to say in connection with your question about gas masks or the chemical issue in general: Today Saddam Husayn, having conquered Kuwait, is being pushed into a state of siege by the international community led by the United States. At the same time, the Arab countries clearly

oppose his moves. What we see now in the covert threat against Israel, as the U.S. partner, is a two-pronged intention: first, to signal to the Arab countries that Israel, the Arab countries' common enemy, is currently Saddam Husayn's enemy, which is why they should join ranks and rally round his cause against the United States and Israel; and second, a warning to Israel against an attack as he is still very much afraid of an attack by us. That is why, under the prevailing situation, we must not take rash moves which basically create an atmosphere of war in the region, thus playing into Saddam Husayn's hands.

Therefore, we are presently avoiding distributing gas masks. We have, of course, on the other hand, a good capability, as I said, to prevent any harm from befalling Israel, and we rely on the means which we have only recently added to our arsenal to guarantee that kind of protection. We consequently see no need to take reckless measures or, if I may say so, even quasi-hysterical steps; there is simply no need for that.

[Ahime'ir] Mr. Chief of Staff, the media, though not only the media, has indeed recently emphasized chemical weapons, which are not so conventional. What other dangers does Israel face from Iraq?

[Shomron] Look, Iraq is quite distant from us nowadays. It currently has a very dangerous front in the south vis-a-vis the United States and perhaps in the future also additional Arab forces. To simultaneously open another front opposite Israel, which is a very strong country and which Saddam Husayn acknowledges or at least can estimate its striking capability against him should he dare to try to strike at Israel—I believe this combination lessens the chance or the likelihood that he would dare attack Israel or even attempt to do so.

[Shlonsky] Mr. Chief of Staff, you explained why there is no chance that he would attack Israel, and yet a few minutes ago you explained why he may seek an alibi to do just that. Do you still foresee a chance that we might be dragged into a war against Saddam Husayn even as he is busy warring in the Persian Gulf?

[Shomron] I do not think he is seeking an alibi; he would very much like to avoid a war with Israel. I think he is trying to create the impression that the United States and Israel are partners, which is why an attack on him in the Gulf, in Kuwait, should it happen, will be one carried out by Israel, which is the common enemy of all the Arab countries. He will thus be able to lift the siege, or at least eliminate that part of it imposed by the Arab countries. I definitely do not believe he is seeking an alibi, any alibi, to reach a state of confrontation with Israel at the present time.

[Ahime'ir] Mr. Chief of Staff, one last question: Can this complex and dangerous affair in the Persian Gulf ultimately end only in a clash in the Persian Gulf between the United States and other countries without Israel's forced participation?

[Shomron] Definitely. I believe that it is likewise very possible that this situation will come to its end without any fighting at all, merely thanks to the effect of the economic siege which currently exists against Iraq. I hope these moves will allow the attainment of the goals the United States set for itself in advance.

[Ahime'ir] Thank you very much, Chief of Staff Dan Shomron.

[Shomron] Thank you.

Security, Disarmament Talks With USSR Scheduled

TA1008065190 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Aug 90 p A1

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Regional security arrangements in the Middle East and the disarmament of weapons of destruction will be among the subjects to be discussed together with the peace process in the high-level meeting between Israel and the USSR to take place next month.

Aleksey Chistyakov, the head of the Soviet consulate delegation in Israel, informed the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem of the meeting after returning this week from Cairo where he conferred with Gennadiy Tarasov, the head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department.

Moscow has thereby accepted Foreign Minister David Levi's proposal for a prepatory meeting prior to his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Three U.S. Citizens Reach Border From Iraq

NC0908142190 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, Aug 9 (AFP)—Three unidentified U.S. nationals entered Jordan from Iraq at the Ruweished border point 270 kilometers (167 miles) east of here Thursday, a border official contacted by telephone said.

He did not specify if the Americans were diplomats but confirmed that U.S. Embassy officials here had left for the Iraqi border post of Braybil, 70 kilometers (43 miles) from the Jordanian frontier, to escort other Americans—who arrived later—back to Amman.

Earlier, officials for British Airways (BA) in Dubai said 36 passengers of a BA plane grounded in Kuwait had been taken to Baghdad by Iraqi troops, but another 295 were stuck in Kuwaiti hotels.

A BA official had denied earlier reports that more than 200 passengers of the Boeing 747, which was stopping over in Kuwait on a flight from London to India and Malaysia when Iraqi forces invaded on August 2, had been transferred in buses to Baghdad.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said British and other foreign nationals remained stranded in Kuwait and Iraq, with the main airports in both Baghdad and Kuwait city closed along with overland border crossing points.

Approximately 50 foreigners arrived here on Wednesday from Iraq.

Egyptians, Other Foreigners Arrive From Kuwait

NC0908171990 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, 9 Aug (MENA)—Ramzi 'Allam, Egyptian charge d'affaires in Amman, has stated that in the past 24 hours 627 Egyptians who had been working in Kuwait arrived in the Jordanian port of al-'Aqabah via Saudi Arabia and are now on their way to Egypt. He stressed that the arriving Egyptians praised the facilities they received while transiting Saudi Arabia, but added that some of them are in bad health as a result of the recent events in the Gulf. He added that thousands of Egyptians are expected to return from Kuwait in the coming days.

In a related issue, Jordanian sources have stated that 150 Egyptians crossed the Iraqi-Jordanian border between 0200 and 1000 this morning. The same sources had earlier reported that 40,000 Egyptians who had been working in Iraq have asked for permission to cross the Iraqi-Jordanian border.

In another development, the director of the borders and foreigners department at the Jordanian public security directorate has stated that 83 foreigners who had been residing in Kuwait have crossed the Jordanian border. They include 22 Britons, 28 Italians, and 7 Americans, while the rest are from Pakistan, Chad, Japan, Philippines, Thailand, Ireland, Yugoslavia, Australia, and Austria.

House Urges Arabs To Resist Foreign Presence

JN0908174290 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The House of Representatives has emphasized the soundness of Jordan's posture on the Gulf crisis as expressed by His Majesty King Husayn's endeavors since it first erupted with a view to reconciling the disputing parties and containing the disagreement within the bounds of the Arab family. In a statement it issued following a meeting last night to consider the regional situation, the House noted that Jordan's position calls for foreign forces to avoid interference in Arab affairs. It called for the continued rejection of and resistance to all forms of foreign interference or occupation of any Arab site under any pretext whatever. The statement also called for all Arabs in every Arab state to hold their ground against all manner of armed foreign presence anywhere in the Arab world. The House urged that all intra-Arab problems and disputes be worked out if we are to thwart the goals of enemies of the Arabs.

The statement said Arab assets should be controlled by their rightful owners rather than by foreigners.

Parliament To Ask Al-Asad for Help Against Iraq

NC0908122390 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpt] In Amman, parliamentary sources have disclosed that the Jordanian parliament has decided to send a parliamentary delegation to Syria to meet President Hafiz al-Asad and ask him to provide assistance against Iraq in view of the possibility of a foreign attack. [passage omitted]

Ba'thist Cable Urges Al-Asad To Support Iraq

JN0908182490 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Aug 90 p 28

[Text] Amman—The Unified Organization of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Jordan has appealed to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to quickly stand side by side with sisterly Iraq, which is waging an unequal battle with the Zionist U.S. forces of evil and aggression. This came in a cable Muhammad al-Zu'bi, the party's secretary, sent to the Syrian president yesterday.

In his cable, al-Zu'bi said: The Arab people from the ocean to the Gulf look forward to a Syrian declaration that Syria, which has a military strike force and which is known for its pan-Arab stands, will support Iraq and use all its military, economic, and political energies in the battle because it is the battle of the one Arab nation and common destiny. Such a position will tip the balance of power in the region in favor of the Arab nation and will create a state of comprehensive popular awakening to

confront the Zionist U.S. aggression and force the enemy to reconsider its calculations.

The cable also called on President al-Asad to forget all differences and rise to the level of the crucial challenges facing the nation and threatening its existence.

Al-Zu'bi sent another cable to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in which he said the members of the Unified Organization of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party firmly support sisterly Iraq in its bold confrontation of the U.S. and NATO invasion forces and their allies. He emphasized that victory in this pan-Arab battle is inevitable.

Islamic Front Declares Support For Iraq

JN0908150290 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
9 Aug 90 p 22

[By Basim Sakkijha]

[Text] In the first announced position on the Kuwaiti crisis by an armed Palestinian front, the Islamic Liberation Front [jabhat al-tahrir al-islami] declared its support for Iraq in confronting the impudent U.S. imperialist onslaught.

The spokesman, with whom AL-RA'Y met yesterday and who used the pseudonym Bassam, said: We stand firmly in support of the Iraqi Muslim people in confronting the imperialist attack by the United States and its collaborators in the region against the Muslim nation.

He added: The front places all its capabilities at the service of the Iraqi leadership at this stage when this leadership is standing proudly in the face of U.S. imperialism and its impudent attack.

Moreover, the front will escalate its attacks against U.S. targets, regardless of their locations inside or outside the region.

The recently formed front announced the day before yesterday its responsibility for bombing a bus while it was passing through Arab Jerusalem, killing or injuring its passengers.

Replying to a question by AL-RA'Y, Bassam said: The front will escalate its military operations in occupied Palestine in accordance with a specific and detailed timetable to completely destroy all military and economic targets.

Replying to another question, the spokesman expressed the belief that the front now constitutes the largest armed Palestinian organization operating in the occupied territories.

AL-RA'Y has learned that the front was formed over the past three years out of Islamic cadres who broke away from large Palestinian organizations in recent years.

Reliable reports said that the political positions of the Palestinian organizations prompted these cadres, who place emphasis on armed struggle, to break away and form this new front.

The same sources added that the front considers itself a PLO faction and part of the unified national leadership in the occupied territories.

Bassam said: Our disagreement with the declared political line does not mean our deviation from the framework which governs Palestinian action, that is, the PLO.

He added: We disagree with the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in this respect. We will not allow it to replace the PLO.

He also said that the media exaggerates the strength of Hamas in the Palestinian occupied territories.

Editorial Criticizes U.S. Policy

JN0908203690 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
7 Aug 90 pp 1, 15

[Editorial: "The United States and Its Dangerous Instigative Policy"]

[Text] While His Majesty King Husayn continues issuing warnings and sincere calls in all directions to avoid the consequences of an explosive situation in the region, the United States continues to pursue a dangerous policy of escalation that prompts us to believe that this superpower is now captive to its emotions and distorted views toward everything Arab.

Instead of giving diplomacy an opportunity, especially Arab diplomacy, to overcome the current adverse circumstances in the Gulf, we see Washington directing its war fleets, mobilizing all its military capabilities, and pressing ahead with its economic and political pressure in a coordinated way to drag the region into a terrible confrontation of unpredictable outcome.

Perhaps the worst in the U.S. position and policy, which reminds us of the instigative campaigns preceding the Crusades, is the United States' continued efforts to turn certain Arab states against Iraq and its disregard for Arab values, ethics, and dignity, especially when the United States, suffering complete political blindness, exerts pressure to dictate to Arab states, impose hegemony, and subdue them under its domination by all means.

It seems that because of the great recklessness of its military and political power, the United States has lost sight and memory altogether. It only sees the Arab region as a chartered oil tanker and the Middle East as a strong and spoiled Israel. The remaining peoples in the region are viewed by Washington as slaves for oil, oil policy, and everything related to this product, which controls Western culture.

As we reiterate our warnings against resorting to the absolute policy of military power to break the solid Iraqi will and to impose humiliation on the Arab nation, we hope that the United States will immediately wake up from its sleep to see the unified Arab stand against the

new Crusades, which this time are aiming their spearheads to subdue and humiliate the Arabs. We consider this scenario as mere dreams of the United States that will not come true.

Air Raid Sirens Sound in Maintenance Test

JN0908111490 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] A Jordanian Public Security source said today that air raid sirens were tested at 1 p.m. this afternoon. The source said it was just a regular maintenance test.

Minister Warns of 'Measures' To Stop Hoarding

JN1008082490 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyub made an inspection tour today of the al-Juwaydah warehouse. More in the following report by our economic affairs correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] The visit to the al-Juwaydah warehouse by the Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyub was to reassure citizens about the supply situation in the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

[Ayyub] Over the past two days there has been a run on certain foodstuffs by citizens and merchants. I would like to make it clear that the Ministry of Supply has a very substantial reserve of foodstuffs handled by the Ministry like wheat, flour, sugar, rice, powdered milk, frozen chicken, frozen meat, and olive oil. The ministry is to continue replenishing the reserve according to schedule. The ministry has a very large stock of feed like maize and barley that should last the kingdom approximately six months. This is in addition to very considerable shipments on their way to the country. The ministry is to maintain the uninterrupted, daily flow of foodstuffs and feed according to the usual routine. I, therefore, advise against hoarding so as to avoid potential damage to stored goods. Should unnecessary hoarding continue, the ministry is resolved to take severe measures. [passage omitted]

Paper Explains Exchange Rate of Kuwaiti Dinar

JN0908184390 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Aug 90 pp 1, 16

[Excerpts] Amman (AL-DUSTUR)—Jordanian banking sources have reported that since yesterday the exchange rate for 1 Kuwaiti dinar is 700 Jordanian fils and that Jordanian banks are changing Kuwaiti dinars into Jordanian dinars according to this new rate. [passage omitted]

Moreover, the sources said that the prices of Arab Gulf currencies—Saudi riyal, United Arab Emirates dirham, Qatari riyal, Bahraini dinar, and Omani riyal—have dropped by 10 to 15 percent following recent incidents, while the dollar's exchange rate stayed the same.

The sources added that supply of the dollar has become more than the demand.

With regard to the exchange rate of the Iraqi dinar, the sources said that the selling price is 187 fils while the buying price is 164 fils.

Six Held by Amal Confess To Kidnapping Higgins

NC0908155990 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 6 Aug 90 p 4

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] AL-NAHAR's correspondent in Tyre reports that at a news conference held in one of its centers yesterday, the Amal Movement's security department in Tyre presented six persons charged with acts of kidnapping, assassination, setting off explosions, and bringing booby-trapped cars into Tyre and its vicinity. The six are 'Ali Qashshur and 'Ali 'Izz-al-Din of Dayr Qanun al-Nahr, Mustafa 'Awn of Shabriha, Qasim and Sakhkhan of the town of al-'Abbasiyah, Nidal Bazzun of 'Aytit, and 'Imad Mudayhili of Tyre. These persons admitted carrying out these acts, including kidnapping U.S. Colonel William Higgins, chief of the truce observation team; planting explosive devices at centers of UN force in the south; blowing up Mustafa Mahdi's clothing store in Tyre as well as the Lebanese-African Nasr Bank in Tyre; and bringing three booby-trapped cars—a BMW, a Honda, and a Mercedes—into Tyre and al-Bisariyah to kill Amal officials, including Executive Committee Chairman Ayyub Hamid as well as al-Hajj Muhammad Harqus and al-Hajj 'Ali Khurays. They also admitted coordinating with "Hizballah" and the "Iranian Revolutionary Guards."

Amal distributed a handwritten statement containing these persons' confessions and details of the operations they carried out as well as the names of the persons who supported them and their hope that they will have a chance to repent. The local Television of the "Left" [Talfizyun al-Yasar] and the local Voice of Joy [Sawt al-Farah] radio broadcast their confessions. [passage omitted]

Groups Pledge To Work Toward Hostages' Release

NC1008052090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] The Islamic Jihad Organization, the Struggling Ulema Organization, and the Revolutionary Lebanese Organization have issued statements saying that they will do their utmost to secure the release of the hostages detained in Lebanon.

Junblatt on Gulf Crisis, U.S. Intervention

NC0908130890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has commented on the current situation in the Gulf. In a statement today he said: It is difficult, if not impossible, to stand up and defend Saddam Husayn. However, it is equally difficult, if not impossible, to stand still and keep silent about what is going on. Therefore, it may be useful to point out certain facts so that our conscience can rest easily, if this is possible. Aircraft are whizzing by and the thundering sound of weapons is echoing in every direction. The wickedness of Arab rulers is almost predominant.

For instance, we ask certain Arab kings and rulers, America, and the West: Who covered up for Saddam's aggression against Iran and the Islamic revolution when they saw that Islam had to be controlled and destroyed regardless of the costs? Who gave Saddam money and arms in his war in the Gulf and in his war against his own people, and the Kurds in particular? Who supplied him with the chemical weapons which will be used today as an additional excuse to strike at the Iraqi army, which I can almost call the first Arab army? Who was the one who thought that he will hoist the American flag on oil tankers to protect himself against the dangers? Who ignored, deliberately or not, the annihilation of the Iraqi opposition and the transfer of tens of thousands of Iraqi citizens in an attempt to create a security strip inside Iraq? Who caused the so-called liberation war in Lebanon in the first place, and who facilitated the transport of tons of weapons to its ports, causing the present destruction which has affected all Lebanese?

Minister Junblatt continued: I remember very well the talks which took place in Damascus during the time of the six-member committee. Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah was present. At that time, I warned him against the ambitions of the Iraqi ruler and the threats his policy posed to both Kuwait and Lebanon. However, my words went unheeded. Even if the words I had said at that time are still echoing today, the Arabs have a poor memory. As for Ibrahimi, his major and only concern was to bring about a cease-fire and lift the blockade imposed at that time, without guaranteeing that weapons and ammunition would not be allowed into Lebanon. The liberation war ended and the war of annihilation started and God knows what will happen.

Therefore, before the fuse of war is lit and the Iraqi army and people are struck at to complete the theatrical performance until the entire Arab region from east to west is controlled, it may be better for Arab kings and rulers, or most of them at least, to be frank with their peoples.

They should tell them that the era of relative political independence and superficial economic prosperity has gone forever, because oil is more important to America than anything else. The present Arab armies and arsenals will only bring harm, destruction, and annihilation to their owners. It may be useful here to dissolve these great armies, security forces, and intelligence apparatus and spend the resulting money, if any, on basic development projects—agriculture and dams—before we all become thirsty beggars. It is better to return to the era of mandate and trusteeship, or even to file an official request to join the United States and turn the Arab world into part of the U.S. federal union. If this happens, we would look better, the flag would look more beautiful, the anthem more truthful, and the law—the American law—is, after all, more secure than the law of ignorance.

Junblatt added: If I had to choose between the American boot and any other, I would prefer the Ottoman boot. At that time, the Arabs and Islam were glorious, strong, feared, and respected. If I had to choose between the American boot

or any other foreign boot I would choose the German boot. Berlin's star is glowing and rising on the horizon. However, it seems that there is no room for choice.

Hizballah Statement Denounces U.S. 'Invasion'

NC1008074890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Commenting on the deteriorating situation in the Gulf, Hizballah has issued the following statement: O sons of our Islamic people, at this critical juncture in which the tide of Islamic revival is rising everywhere in our oppressed world, with the aim of freeing the will of the people and rescuing them from subservience to international arrogance, and of ending the designs of fragmentation that only serve the interests of the international plunderers, the Gulf region has begun to witness a direct U.S. military invasion. The invasion, which is backed by the NATO countries, is undertaken under the weak pretext and false pretense of safeguarding Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] from Iraqi threats. The threats were made by the criminal regime of Saddam Husayn that had made the foolish move of swallowing Kuwaiti territory and imposing its will on the Muslims living there by force.

While we denounce the Iraqi regime and warn of the perils it poses for the entire Muslim people, we firmly state that the summoning of the NATO armies to the Gulf region and the use of these armies to protect the puppet regimes there is equally condemnable. We fear that such move could help shore up the tottering regime in Baghdad and place the oil fields and the sources of the people's wealth under the control of the international forces of atheism.

Therefore, we vehemently reject all forms of U.S. and European military invasion of the region under any pretext, circumstance, or slogan.

The source continued its statement by saying: The stupidity of the Al Sa'ud [Saudi royal family] is no less than that of the carnivorous regime of Saddam. The utter servility of Al Saud to the U.S. will and designs in the region jeopardizes the safety of the entire Muslim nation and compromises the existence, values, and role of that nation to promote the interests of the covetous West and its conspiratorial designs.

The statement added: It is indisputable that the Gulf regimes' involvement in supporting the Iraqi regime's aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran and in supplying that regime with all the means for perpetrating crimes and injustice has been the main reason for the transformation of Saddam into a powerful wolf that now threatens his close neighbors.

We firmly state that Muslim countries and their wealth, oil, and navigation routes belong only to the Muslims, not to the agent rulers who are imposed on them by America and others. Our Islamic people are capable of acting on their own to tackle all their problems and issues and to choose the best means to protect their safety and stability and install the regimes that ensure the supremacy of justice, the protection of freedoms, and the repulsion of external threats.

The U.S. Administration has to abandon its protection of aggression in the world and stop involving hideous regimes in designs to impose its hegemony on the Muslim nation.

The mercenary rulers must stop encouraging and facilitating all forms of invasion by world arrogance. They must understand that they are held fully responsible for such actions before God, the Muslims, and history.

O sons of our Muslim nation, the deteriorating situation that we now witness due to the servility of the agent rulers to world arrogance and foreign plunderers requires you to stand up and confront the fateful dangers and prevent the American invaders from squashing your will for liberation, stifling your freedoms, robbing your wealth, stealing the resources of your countries, and consolidating the causes of backwardness in your country, chief among which is the continued hegemony of despicable rulers such as the treasonous rulers of Al Sa'ud and others of their ilk. Your resolve, awareness, and insistence on your rights are capable of overcoming all difficulties, repulsing all invaders, and overthrowing all the defeatist agents. If ye will aid (the cause of) God, he will aid you, and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse]

U.S. Assistant Secretary Kelly Arrives 9 Aug

JN1008082090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus—John Kelly, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, arrived in Damascus at 1930 yesterday. He was received at the airport by Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur, the head of the Foreign Ministry's America Department, and the deputy head of the ministry's Protocol Department.

Meets With Qaddur

JN1008100790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus—Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs, this morning received John Kelly, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs. The meeting was attended by Yusuf Shakkur, assistant to the foreign minister; Raslan 'Allush, director of the America Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Edward Djerejian, U.S. ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with the recent developments in the Gulf.

NPF Supports Al-Asad Efforts in Gulf Crisis

JN0908114090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The Central Command of the National Progressive Front [NPF] held a meeting this morning under the chairmanship of President Hafiz al-Asad. It reviewed the developments that resulted from the Iraqi forces' invasion of Kuwait and the efforts to convene an immediate emergency Arab summit to tackle the situation and avoid potential danger to the region. The Central Command supported the Syrian Arab activity and praised the personal efforts of President Hafiz al-Asad to handle the situation out of concern for pan-Arab interests.

Army Chief Calls Invasion 'Unprecedented Event'

JN0908212790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2023 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Aleppo—Under the patronage of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, a new batch of officers of the al-Asad Academy for Military Engineering was graduated in a special ceremony this morning.

General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces, spoke on behalf of his excellency the president. He delivered a speech in which he conveyed the congratulations of his excellency the president and his greetings to his sons at the academy. [passage omitted]

Gen. al-Shihabi reviewed in his speech the complex circumstances which the Arab nation is facing in light of the current international situation and the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, which is an unprecedented event in inter-Arab ties—the invasion prompted by purely economic and parochial motives that have nothing whatsoever to do with pan-Arab interests, amid an Arab inability to effectively address this problem and its effects, and the resulting excuses used by foreign powers to directly intervene. He added that this invasion has produced conditions that will place the region at a dangerous turning point that will have far-reaching effects on the Arabs' interests and future. He also affirmed that this will inflict the gravest harm on the entire Arab region, and also on Iraq itself.

Gen. al-Shihabi explained in his speech the role of al-Asad's Syria in confronting these conditions. He affirmed that leader al-Asad hastened to hold contacts with the Arab leaders, urging them to hold an effective Arab summit to tackle the emerging situation and to draw up solutions to end the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and remove its effects because the Israeli enemy is the primary party which stands to benefit from all this.

Gen. al-Shihabi added: Now that the initiative of his excellency the president has been accepted and it has been decided to convene the summit, we hope that we will reach resolutions that will spare all parties harm and revive Arab solidarity. [passage omitted]

Deputy Chief of Kuwaiti Amir's Court on Stance

PM0908084890 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Aug 90 p 5

[Interview with Shaykh Du'ayj Jabir al-'Ali al-Sabah, deputy chief of the Amiri Court in Kuwait, by Dalal al-Saqr in Damascus; date unspecified]

[Text] Shaykh Du'ayj Jabir al-'Ali al-Sabah, deputy chief of the Amiri Court of Kuwait, who visited Damascus to make contacts with the Syrian Government and discuss events in the Gulf, has said that his meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and other officials produced good results which in general emphasized the Syrian Government's willingness to take all the necessary steps to work to put the UN Security Council resolution into effect. He pointed out that the Syrian Government is, as it has always been, a model of sincerity and faithfulness.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked Shaykh Du'ayj about conditions in Kuwait after the announcement of the Iraqi withdrawal; he said: "We do not recognize that withdrawal. We believe it is merely a minor political move because the withdrawal, as mentioned in the statement, is unilateral and not supervised by any international party or witnessed by any of the world's prominent states. What we saw was nothing more than a video distributed by the occupying force."

[Al-Saqr] What are Kuwait's demands?

[Al-Sabah] Kuwait's demands focus on the condemnation of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, unconditional withdrawal, and the restoration of conditions in Kuwait to their previous status as of 1 August 1990.

[Al-Saqr] Do you believe in a political solution?

[Al-Sabah] We believe in a political solution, and our next step will be in that direction. Our objective is peace—a just peace. Such disputes cannot be resolved by force.

[Al-Saqr] What are the next steps in that regard?

[Al-Sabah] Kuwait submitted a complaint to both the Arab League and the United Nations, and there are continuous consultations with the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC]. And it is cooperating with the friendly states and all the honorable states. And this could result in a solution leading to an immediate, unconditional withdrawal and the restoration of conditions to their previous status as of 1 August 1990, as I said.

[Al-Saqr] What about the military solutions?

[Al-Sabah] If we turn to the military solution, it is because we are defending ourselves. And if we have no other options, it will be one of the options to be raised.

[Al-Saqr] Do you support intervention in Kuwait's war with Iraq?

[Al-Sabah] We will not call it foreign intervention since Kuwait is working earnestly to formulate a strong and influential Arab will to lift the oppression inflicted on Kuwait. If the Arab League is unable to do so, we will turn to the United Nations, which has issued a resolution condemning the aggression against Kuwait and calling for the formation of a force to repulse the invaders and support the rights of the peoples in the region. But we will turn to that as a final solution.

[Al-Saqr] What about a miniemergency [Arab] summit?

[Al-Sabah] I do not see any reason for such a proposal at the moment since an expanded summit including all the Arab states, except the aggressive state, must be proposed in accordance with the Arab League system.

[Al-Saqr] Liberation always takes place from inside. Can the Kuwaitis end the occupation from inside?

[Al-Sabah] The Kuwaitis cannot end the occupation from inside. Kuwait is a small state which cannot endure the force to which it has been exposed. But it has always been a member of a Gulf and Arab family which respects traditions. Our objective is to realize protection and security and maintain peace.

[Al-Saqr] Is it true that some states have demanded the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces but have set no conditions?

[Al-Sabah] If you look at the Gulf states, you will find them all meeting at the GCC. And if you refer to the resolutions of the GCC foreign ministers, you will find that the demand, as I said, is to condemn the aggression and work to eliminate it immediately.

[Al-Saqr] In your view, why did the opposition forces in Kuwait refuse to participate in the government formed by Iraq?

[Al-Sabah] I do not believe in the first place that there is any government in Kuwait other than that of Amir Jabir al-Sabah. The announced provisional government is nothing but a government of occupation formed to justify the occupation operation. It is not free, nor does it represent the Kuwaiti will. It represents the guns of occupation, especially as it is headed by 'Ala Husayn.

[Al-Saqr] Were you surprised by some Arab states' positions?

[Al-Sabah] Undoubtedly there were surprises which we did not experience in the past, especially as Kuwait has always seen its natural extension in the Arab family. But when Kuwait was in need, some states disappointed Kuwait regarding its hope for help.

[Al-Saqr] What about the political accusations leveled at Kuwait by Iraq?

[Al-Sabah] I believe that Kuwait's stances at international forums are well- known. And if you refer to all Kuwait's stances, whether at the Arab League, the GCC, or regarding its support for the Arab issues, you will find the answer to your question.

[Al-Saqr] What is the total volume of the aid and commitments provided by Kuwait during the Iran-Iraq war?

[Al-Sabah] The Kuwaiti loan totaled $19 or 20 billion. This is in addition to all the help and facilities provided at ports and by air.

[Al-Saqr] Do you believe that the announcement of an Iraqi withdrawal reflects signs of a political solution?

[Al-Sabah] What I believe is that it is merely a cheap theatrical show which is totally remote from the truth.

[Al-Saqr] Would you like to say something to the Kuwaiti people and the Arab nation?

[Al-Sabah] I ask God to grant the Kuwaiti people steadfastness and consolation and to keep despair from their hearts, especially as the force weighing heavily on their soul is a great force. But we have great faith in God, the homeland, and the amir. And we hope that the Arab states will take the necessary position, condemn the aggression, and work to renounce force as a solution to disputes.

Afghanistan

Tribal Jirgah Session Supports Government

LD1008081290 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug 9 BAKHTAR—To support peaceful initiatives and [word indistinct] of Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan [word indistinct], a tribal Jirgah "session" of elders, chieftains and representatives of the Turkman nationalities of the [word indistinct], Baklkh, and [word indistinct] province has held in the Hall of the Nationalities Affairs Department in Kabul today.

[Passage indistinct] that first Vm.A. Nabizadah spoke on national reconciliation policy and constructive measures adopted by the RA state for restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

Later on, a number of participants of the Jirgah supporting the RA Government's constructive proposals and policy line [passage indistinct] the implementation of the said proposals.

Resolution To Combat Drug Production, Addiction

LD0908054990 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug 8, BAKHTAR—The High Commission on Campaigning against the Production, Smuggling and the Use of Narcotic Materials under a separate resolution assigned different organs to intensify their campaign against narcotic substances. Says the resolution of the commission adopted on August in its session held in the Afghan capital Kabul.

To this end, the commission has decided that a national program of campaigning against narcotic materials should be prepared by the elected commission headed by Nezamuddin Tahzib by September. The deputy minister, Mr. Pazhwak, is to report to the next plenary session of The Council of Ministers about the measures taken so far in this connection as per earlier resolution of the Council of Ministers it adds.

The minister of foreign affairs should always inform international organisations and communities about the measures to be taken in this connection as well as to reveal the anti-national and anti-Islamic activities of the commanders and heads of Pak-based opposition who with the cooperation of Pak's official organisation and the CIA are engaged in the production and smuggling of narcotic substances. Similarly, the ground should be paved for cooperation with India, Iran, the Soviet Union, other concerned countries, international organisations and the attraction of all-sided assistance of international communities, the resolution states.

The organs of the protection of rights should give lectures about the crimes arising from the use and smuggling of narcotic substances and punishments embodied in the laws envisaged for such crimes. The smuggler of narcotic materials should be punished openly.

The Ministries of Interior, State Security, Defence and Public Health should determine the precise number of the drug addicts in the next two months as well as the plants operating in frontier areas should be detected and determined.

The Ministry of Information and Culture and the political departments of the Armed Forces of the RA [Republic of Afghanistan] should launch an extensive propaganda campaign against the production, smuggling and use of narcotic materials and the Ministry of Public Health should take special measures for the treatment of drug addicts in the hospitals and health centers, it concludes.

Campaign Against Narcotics Smuggling Outlined

LD0908065490 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0425 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug 8, BAKHTAR—The production, smuggling and the use of narcotics have turned into one of the most painful problems of the world and has become a horrible danger before the mankind, says the high commission of combatting against the production, smuggling and use of narcotics in the reublic of Afghanistan. [RA].

Pursuing the orders of the sacred religion of Islam, the state of the RA considers it its legal and Islamic duty to campaign in the country against this hated phenomena and for this purpose of the basis of the presidential decree a high commission to combat against the production and use of narcotic materials was formed in the country.

In order to maintain the health and security of the society's individuals the commission has decided to organise the cooperation of social organisations and state organs and the attraction of the people's active participation in combatting against narcotics. The commission will also endeavour to attract the regional and international cooperation in campaigning against the production, smuggling and use of narcotics.

Abiding by the resolution of the United Nations Organisation and international conventions in regard with international cooperation against the illegal production, smuggling and dessemination of narcotic materials the commission approves the following national program.

In national sphere the program focuses to prevent the cultivation and production of narcotic materials and to prevent its production; To eliminate the herbs from which narcotic materials are obtained, to vanish the farms where narcotic substances are cultivated as well as the plants of producing and processing narcotic materials; to obtain loans and credits such machinery, agricultural tools and other kinds of assistance from international sources to farmers in order to pursuade them to give up the cultivation of poppy and hashish bushes and finally to equip and enrich the branches of campaigning against narcotic substances.

In order to intensify campaign against smuggling and use of narcotic materials attention should be focused on reinstate a permanent and intermittent control by security organs, to adopt effective measures to prevent the arrival of narcotics, to control the state and private drug stores in [words indistinct] impermissible trading and supply of narcotic materials.

In respect of treating the drug addicts a comprehensive plan should be prepared and applied and further steps should be taken for offering better medical services and for training medical personnel. Also, the supply of medicines for the drug addicts and foreign aid in order to help the drug addicts to combat their addiction.

The people should be aware of the harms of narcotic materials through publications, radio-television programs, showing of films and other means of mass media.

In international sphere the attention of interested countries and international organisations, should be drawn to extend their projects in this respect. The state of the Republic of Afghanistan will join the international conventions including the Vienna convention for the year [words indistinct] about the illegal trafficking of narcotic materials. Efforts will be made to establish an office of intenational board on the control of narcotic materials and other concerned international organisations in the Republic of Afghanistan. Agreements should be reached on cooperation and exchange of experience with the neighbouring countries of the region and the world about campaigning against the production and use of narcotics, it concludes.

Bangladesh

Foreign Minister Meets Australian Counterpart

Cooperation To Be Expanded

BK0908010590 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 90

[Text] Bangladesh and Australia have agreed to expand bilateral cooperation in all fields. The agreement was reached at a meeting between Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud and his Australian counterpart, Gareth Evans, in Dhaka today. The two sides stressed the need for signing an agreement on trade and setting up a joint chamber to increase the volume of trade between the two countries. The two foreign ministers also discussed international issues, including developments in the Gulf and Cambodia.

Ends Visit, Departs

BK0908133290 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Australian foreign minister, Senator Gareth Evans, left Dhaka Thursday afternoon after a [words indistinct] to Bangladesh. He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud.

Earlier, addressing a press conference, he said his visit to Dhaka aims at improving economic, trade, and political relations with Bangladesh. He said economic relations between Australia and Bangladesh have increased over the years. There is much more scope to improve these relations further. Specific areas of bilateral trade, including import of crude oil from Australia, had been discussed during talks with officials in Dhaka. The two sides also discussed the setting up of a joint chamber of commerce and industry to enhance the economic cooperation between the two countries. The Australian foreign minister lauded Bangladesh efforts to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the people. Australia, he said, very much respects the people's enormous capacity to work and improve their conditions. Mr. Evans described the relations between Dhaka and Canberra as excellent and hoped this will be further improved in the coming days.

Replying to a question, the Australian foreign minister said he had talks with leaders of Bangladesh, including two major opposition parties. He appreciated the democratic process which is on in the country and hoped that there will be full and complete transition to democracy with participation of all parties in the election. He thought elections could be free and fair under international observation.

India

Pakistani Foreign Secretary Arrives on Visit

'No Change' in Foreign Policy

BK0908125290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan, arrived in New Delhi this afternoon on a three-day official visit. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he asserted that there is no change in his country's foreign policy. Mr. Khan said he has been authorized by Pakistan's new prime minister to state very clearly that his country is interested in establishing cooperative, mutually beneficial, and good neighborly relations with Ind

Comments on Kashmir

BK0908161290 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Secretary Tanvir Ahmad Khan has arrived in New Delhi this afternoon for the second round of talks with his Indian counterpart. Speaking to newsmen at the airport, he said Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has authorized him to make it clear that the prime minister is deeply interested in establishing cooperative, mutually beneficial and good neighborly relations with India. Tanvir Ahmad Khan said the political changes in Pakistan are an internal affair and is a manifestation of a part of the political process which has been going on for some time. There is no change in the foreign policy. When asked whether it was not in

violation of the Simla agreement to raise the Kashmir issue by Pakistan at the Islamic Conference Organization, the foreign secretary said Pakistan does not think that under the agreement, the Kashmir issue cannot be raised before any other organization or party. He expressed the confidence that the second round of talks will add up to the understanding reached at the talks held in Islamabad last month.

Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey, who received Tanvir Ahmad Khan at the airport, said the talks are aimed at carrying forward the process of creating confidence between the two countries.

Discusses Hopes for Talks

BK1008043190 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan, arrived in New Delhi today for another round of discussion on bilateral relations. This follows Indian Foreign Secretary Muchkund Dubey's visit to Islamabad last month. The two foreign secretaries talked to Doordarshan [Television] on various aspects of India-Pakistan ties.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Now that the political dialogue between the two countries has started, will Pakistan have an approach of playing less of India-bating?

[Khan] I do not (?gather) what you mean by India-bating. I do not think either side is bating the other side. We are sincerely engaged, I mean me and my old friend Mr. Dubey, in trying to establish a framework in which our political leaders can resolve the causes of tension, unfortunately, which are present at the moment.

The political developments in Pakistan are internal democratic developments, democratic manifestation of a certain process which has been going on for some time. There is no change of foreign policy and I have been authorized, in fact, I have been mandated by the new prime minister to state very clearly that he is deeply interested in establishing a cooperative, mutually beneficial, and a goodneighborly relationship.

There were seven very clear well-defined proposals by the Government of India. We made some proposals of our own, and on a number of them we made very good progress last time and I am sure we will continue our discussion in details and make further progress.

[Dubey] Our discussions in Islamabad were candid and useful. Our focus would be to carry this process forward. I am generally optimistic when I approach a task like this. I generally believe that we the diplomats who are in this game have to be incorrigible optimists. [end recording]

Indian Sources Not Optimistic

BK1008025990 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 10 Aug 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] A further attempt is to be made today to clear the way for an easing of tension between India and Pakistan over the disputed territory of Kashmir. Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan is in Delhi to meet his Indian counterpart Mr. Muchkund Dubey. Mr. Khan said the purpose of the second round of talks was to establish a framework under which the top political leadership of the two countries could operate. The intention was, as he put it, to remove misunderstandings and misconceptions. Here is Satish Jacob:

[Begin Jacob recording] Mr. Khan said that Pakistan had submitted a text of possible agreement to the Indians. They were on non-violation of each other's air space by military aircraft and on an exchange of information on troop movements. The Pakistan diplomat added that he hoped that after this round of talks the two countries would be able to (?set) down a final text of agreement. However, his counterpart, the Indian foreign secretary, Mr. Muchkund Dubey, was less forthright in his comments. He only said that he hoped that the talks will be fruitful and successful. Official Indian sources said that the mood in the Indian camp was not very optimistic. They did not expect much from these talks, because in their opinion the dismissal of the Benazir Bhutto government had changed the complexion of the situation.

The first round of talks held last month did not yield much as India rejected outright the Pakistani proposal that the two countries should redeploy their troops to peace-time locations. India continues to maintain that there had been no let up in Pakistani assistance to the terrorists, both in Kashmir and Punjab. [end recording].

Gujral Reviews Safety of Indians in Kuwait

BK1008044390 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] All Indians in Kuwait are safe and well. This has been confirmed by our ambassador in Kuwait with whom the Government could establish contact today. The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, said this in a statement in the Lok Sabha this evening. Mr. Gujral said the unconfirmed reports of five or six Indians having been caught in the cross-fire during the Iraqi military action in Kuwait has been denied by Iraq. Our ambassador, however, is making further inquiries.

Mr. Gujral said according to our ambassador there is no violence except some sporadic incidents in Kuwait and trade is continuing. There is no shortage of food, nor a breakdown of power.

Earlier during the day, Mr. Gujral said the government is doing its utmost to ensure the safety of Indians in Kuwait and to evacuate at least some of them to India or

to other safer places in the neighborhood. However, there are difficulties as communication links are cut off and airports, seaports, and land routes remained closed. The minister was replying to an unscheduled two-hour discussion when members from all sections of the house raised the issue during zero hour and made anxious inquiries. Mr. Gujral turned down a suggestion that the prime minister should personnally contact Saddam Husayn of Iraq and said that it is not advisable at this stage. Congress-I and Muslim League members staged a walk-out in protest.

Nine Killed, Akali Dal Leader Injured in Punjab

BK1008052490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] In Punjab, nine persons, including two terrorists have been killed and seven persons, including a senior Akali Dal leader and a former minister, have been injured in separate incidents since last evening. According to an official spokesman, two scooter-borne terrorists struck at three different places in Ludhiana city last night killing seven persons, including two policemen, and injuring a child in the attack. In Kapurthala, terrorists fired at the senior Akali Dal leader, Mr. Atma Singh, seriously injuring him outside his house.

In Amritsar District, two terrorists were killed in an encounter with the security forces near village Brahampura.

Devi Lal Addresses Farmers Rally in New Delhi

Farmers Support Janata Dal

BK0908140190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The farmers rally in New Delhi today urged the government to fix a ceiling on urban property on the lines of the ceiling on agricultural land. Demanding this in a resolution, it pleaded that the government should have at least half of the members in the Planning Commission with rural background. The rally, organized by the Dehat Sangharsh Samiti [Rural Struggle Committee], also demanded prompt implementation of the waiver of loans for farmers and the principle of one rank, one pension for ex-servicemen. Several speakers of the rally recalled Mr. Devi Lal's contribution in the formation of the Janata Dal and the National Front. They reiterated their resolve not to allow the Janata Dal to break. Some of them objected to the manner in which Mr. Devi Lal was dropped from the union Cabinet. The rally expressed its faith in the leadership of Mr. Devi Lal. They wanted that the struggle for the rights of the farmers should continue.

Addressing the rally, Mr. Devi Lal expressed concern for the rural poor and wanted that their lot should be improved. He hoped that the Janata Dal will continue to function for the welfare of weaker sections of the society. Other speakers included Mr. Chandrashekhar, Mr. Prakash Singh Badal, Mr. Deve Gowda, Mr. Kasi Ram, Mr. Hukum Singh, Mr. Mahendra Singh Tikayat, Dr. Subramania Swamy, and Mr. O.P. Chautala.

V.P. Singh Declines Invitation

BK0908145290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The farmers rally organized by the Dehat Sangharsh Samiti [Rural Struggle Committee] in New Delhi today urged the government to fix a ceiling on urban property on the lines of the ceiling on agricultural land. [passage omitted]

The AIR [All India Radio] correspondent reports that the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, was also invited to attend the rally by Mr. Devi Lal on phone this morning. But Mr. V.P. Singh did not participate on the advice of the Janata Dal president. After Mr. Devi Lal informed the prime minister that the Congress-I president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, had also been invited to the rally, Mr. V.P. Singh told him that he had to consult the Janata Dal president as it involves party discipline.

An agency report says that the Congress-I has denied that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was invited by Mr. Devi Lal to attend the rally.

Correction to Farmers Rally Faith in Devi Lal

BK0908141790

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Farmers Rally Expresses Faith in Devi Lal" published in the 9 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 55.

Column one, paragraph one, second sentence, should read ...organized by the Dehat Sangharsh Samiti [Rural Struggle Committee] to highlight... adding the word "Dehat" to the committee title and its corresponding translation, "Rural" to the editorial notation.

Iran

Besharati Opposes Foreign Forces in Persian Gulf

LD0908134190 Tehran IRNA in English 1257 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA—First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati today voiced Iran's opposition to the presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf. In a meeting with Japanese Ambassador in Tehran Kunihiko Saito, Besharati maintained that the security and stability of the region should be maintained by regional states and not by outsiders. He also reiterated the Islamic Republic's unchanged stance on aggression and against the growing foreign military presence in the Persian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Oman Sea.

In turn, the Japanese ambassador briefed Besharati on the Tokyo government's stance on recent developments in the Persian Gulf.

Velayati Comments on Persian Gulf Tour

LD0908174590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran concluded his tour of Syria and four Persian Gulf states and returned to Tehran this afternoon. We continue this bulletin with an interview between our correspondent and Mr. Velayati.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Velayati, you took a message from the president of our country, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, for the leaders of a number of Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region regarding the situation in the area. You also had meetings and discussions with the heads of these states. Please tell us about the results of your meetings?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We went to Syria and then visited four Persian Gulf regional states. We had messages for the heads of these five countries from Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The main context of the messages was the description of the fundamental views of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the very important recent event, the occupation of Kuwait. As noted in the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the start of the incident, the Islamic Republic of Iran opposes the forceful occupation of anyone's territory and we consider this one of our main foreign policy principles. Therefore, we objected to the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, oppose the occupation of Palestine by Israel, and the aggression by the usurping Israeli regime against Lebanon. This is part of our principles. We had discussions with the heads and high-ranking officials of the Persian Gulf states that are members of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC], where we discussed and explained our positions and principles. I believe that with this move by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region it has shown that our foreign policy is carried out within a framework of our beliefs.

Among such beliefs is cooperation and good-neighborly and friendly relations, particularly with Muslim neighbors. Under these sensitive and dangerous conditions that exist in our region, the Islamic Republic of Iran has shown a good example of sincerity and adherence to principles. This is a position that all our friends and heads of states in the Persian Gulf noted. The officials of the countries we visited had a very positive and constructive attitude toward the positions adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran. We have all come to the same conclusion that there is no course of action but cooperation with the regional states to safeguard this sensitive region. What has occured in Kuwait, its occupation and subsequent annexation by Iraq, is unacceptable to all of us, the countries in the region. Such events directly and seriously threaten our national security and we cannot stay indifferent to it. During the past few days GCC foreign ministers held a session in Jeddah and today the Arab countries will be meeting in Cairo. It seems that there is an unprecedented consensus not only among the regional countries, but Arab nations, Muslims nations, and the entire world, which is determined to oppose any such violations of independence and sovereignty of nations, and not allow the destiny of countries and nations to become the target of aggression by their neighbors. [end recording]

Mr. Velayati, responding to a question that the Egyptian president has suggested that in order to solve the issue of Iraq's attack against Kuwait, Iraqi forces should retreat to Bubiyan Island and that the island should be put at Iraqi disposal, said: I have not heard this and should it be true, the remarks of the Egpytian president are in the form of a bribe and the Islamic Republic of Iran opposes an Iraqi retreat to and occupation of Bubiyan, which is a very sensitive area. Any geopolitical change in the region is completely condemned.

Official Denies Messages Exchanged With U.S.

LD1008083890 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10, IRNA—An Iranian Foreign Ministry official here today denied a statement by a U.S. State Department spokesman Thursday on exchange of messages between the U.S. Government and Iran in connection with current developments at the Persian Gulf.

He said the Swiss ambassador who is in charge of the interest section of the United States in Tehran had previously "offered certain viewpoints in relation with Iraq's invasion of Kuwait" in a meeting with Iranian Foreign Ministry officials. "We voiced the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran in relation with current developments in the region which had been previously announced in various government communiques," said the official.

He emphasized that no message had been exchanged between Iran and the U.S. over the past few days.

He commented instead that earlier this week the Iranian Government had received a message on same topic from the Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

Reza'i Warns on U.S. Military Presence in Gulf

LD0908133690 Tehran IRNA in English 1254 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 9, IRNA—A senior military commander today warned that the massive presence of American military forces in the Persian Gulf had more dangerous impacts on developments in the region than Iraq's military occupation of Kuwait.

Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the battle-hardened Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said "For long

the U.S. was waiting for an opportunity to tighten its hold on the Persian Gulf, the flow of oil in particular, and the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait has provided Washington the gold chance."

He said the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and the U.S. military build-up in the Persian Gulf made it necessary for the Iranian armed forces, "the brave Basijis (volunteer forces)" and the officials to watch and follow up the new developments carefully and vigilantly. The IRGC commander is here to inspect military forces stationed in Western Iran.

On the Soviet Union's weak position in the Persian Gulf region, Reza'i cautioned "The Americans may be scheming to set up a new force like NATO in the region... in such a complicated and dubious situation we should be prepared to defend our interests."

On the possibility of Iraqi military movements along the Iranian border, Reza'i said the Iraqi Army seems to have reduced its forces in the region in the wake of its invasion of Kuwait.

Ayatollah Yazdi's Friday Prayers Focus on Gulf

LD1008120990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] The Friday prayer sites all over the country today, as on previous Fridays, witnessed the solid presence of devout and pious people. In Tehran, meanwhile, the unity-inspiring Friday prayer rites were held at Tehran University and its adjacent streets with the massive participation of the Hezbollah and monotheist people under the leadership of Ayatollah Yazdi.

In prayer sermons, the head of the judiciary referred to the Persian Gulf region crisis, which resulted from Iraqi military aggression against Kuwaiti territory. Condemning the aggression, he said: Any change in the world's political map, especially by force, is unacceptable.

Ayatollah Yazdi stressed: Military occupation, anywhere in the world and in any form, is condemned, specifically by the logic of Islam and from the point of view of Muslims and the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials.

Referring to the Iranian people's resistence during eight years of imposed war, he said: At that time, no matter how much the Islamic Republic of Iran's officials protested to the international organizations against the Iraqi aggression on Iranian borders, nobody would pay any attention, but today the world, especially the world of arrogance, admits the Iraqi regime's aggressionist character. Fortunately world organizations' officials are mouthing, of necessity, the same remarks we used to make. Yazdi stressed that an economic blockade or troop movements by the powers to the Persian Gulf region would not solve any problem. He said the crisis should be eliminated by the region's residents and governments because the presence of foreigners eventually would benefit the foreigners.

He added: The Iraqi Government must withdraw to international borders and yield to regulations governing international relations. In so doing, it must admit its second wrongdoing.

Continuing the same theme, the judiciary head reminded his audience: The trend of peace talks betwen Iran and Iraq must maintain its natural posture; attention must be paid to the principal points of these talks, which consist of the framework of Security Council Resolution 598, as well as the 1975 Algiers Agreement.

Ayatollah Yazdi went on in his remarks to refer to the encounter with Muslims in India and the slaughter of Muslims in Sri Lanka. he asked the Indian Government to exercise more care and caution in confronting Indian Muslims. He then invited the warring Muslim actions in Lebanon to abandon infighting and fratricide and to consolidate their forces against the Zionists.

On the country's judicial problems, Ayatollah Yazdi said: The religious judges, the secular judges, and the people have welcomed the practice of open hearing in courts, which has been in line with Article 35 of the Constitution. He said that by introducing open hearings at courts, those of the accused who lack the power of speech can choose an attorney for themselves so the attorney may speak on their behalf. He stressed: It is necessary for judicial courts to give individuals the right to choose an attorney. At the conclusion of his remarks, he praised the doctors working at the Coronor's Office and asked the minister of health, treatment, and medical training to pay more attention to that group of doctors, who shoulder a very sensitive task in discerning judicial cases.

Syrian Envoy Backs Iran's Stance on Iraq, Kuwait

LD0908132990 Tehran IRNA in English 1240 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9 IRNA—Syrian ambassador in Tehran Ahmad al-Hasan Thursday lauded the Islamic Republic's stance on the Iraqi military occupation of Kuwait and the unfolding events in the Persian Gulf.

In a meeting with First Vice President Hasan Habibi, the Syrian ambassador also called for expansion of Tehran-Damascus ties in such diverse fields as politics, economy, culture, science and tourism.

Habibi replied that both Syria and Iran should continue to exchange views as before on important regional and international issues, and said peace was in the interest of not only regional states but the entire Muslim world.

Commentary Views Iraqi Occupation of Kuwait

LD0908155290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1056 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Excerpts] An emergency summit of Arab heads of state is due to meet in Cairo tonight to decide on a stance or find a solution to the Iraqi attack on Kuwait. This is at a time when, following yesterday's declaration by Saddam, that Kuwait and Iraq are fully merged, the doors to finding a non-aggressive solution are being closed, one after another.

The declaration of merger which has been seen by world forums as the formal annexation and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq, though not unexpected, still shows that Iraq is persisting in carrying through its plans to conclusion; and that the economic and political sanctions of the Security Council and their gradual implementation have not changed the decision of that government. Iraq's effort to display its resolve to achieve peace during the imposed war with Iran, and the propaganda war against Israel and its claims about missiles and chemical attacks against that country, were aimed at public opinion at home and in the Arab world. These, together with Iraq's attack on Kuwait, all form three parts of Iraq's comprehensive plan to occupy Kuwait permanently.

It is clear that the declaration of merger with an occupied Kuwait will not lead to anything save an escalation of the crisis. Thus, even though foreign reaction to this situation may intensify, it should be borne in mind, however, that the level of the exchange of concessions in the search for a solution has also risen. In the midst of all this, the efforts of Husni Mubarak and those of the presidents of Algeria, Syria, Libya, and several other Arab countries to hold an emergency meeting of Arab heads of state—however much this may represent the endeavors of these governments to find an Arab and regional solution before foreign intervention—also show, according to some experts, that Arab governments are trying to preserve the existence of the Arab League. [passage omitted]

Arab foreign ministers, in their previous emergency summit in Cairo, condemned Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, but the votes cast by some Arab governments against this condemnation demonstrated that Arab governments suffer from a profound degree of discord and disunity when it comes to adopting a united position towards the question of the attack or a solution to it. An Egyptian newspaper, reiterating this point, has written: If the Arab world implements Resolution 661 on sanctions against Iraq, it means that they will be punishing an Arab government rather then endorsing that government. And if they do not implement the resolution, it means that they have accepted the law of the jungle.

Iraq's agression against Kuwait has jeopardized the existence of the Gulf Cooperation Council, since Kuwait was one of its members, and member countries are committed to take action in the face of military aggression against the territory of one of their members. Also, this attack seriously threatens the continuation of the survival of the Arab Cooperation Council, two of whose prominent poles are Egypt and Iraq.

Taking note of these circumstances, it is hardly likely that the Arab League and the emergency summit of Arab heads of state will achieve much success. Husni Mubarak has proposed that a military force made up of troops from some Arab countries be formed as a buffer force and enter Kuwait, but the Kuwaiti ambasador to the United Nations has said that this crisis has got out of the control of the Arab League forever, and the only solution is to agree with the Security Council's Resolution 660 [as heard].

In the absence of a solution or of Arab determination to solve this crisis, a foreign solution—that is, UN intervention or multinational forces led by the United States—is being put forward. But some people believe that France's reluctance to participate in these forces, and the Greek Government's announcement that it would not allow U.S. aircraft to use its airspace show that there is not enough solidarity among foreign powers either, and each one of them is reacting to the crisis in accordance with its own interests.

On the one hand, the repeated U.S. emphasis that the dispatch of its forces to Arabia is for the purpose of defending that country and not for attacking Kuwait makes one believe that the United States has probably removed from its agenda any form of military inteven-tion to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, because America would pay dearly for any military intervention in Kuwati. Now, if this matter—that is, non-military intervention by the West in Kuwait—is correct, America would still be asked why it showed weakness in lending support to its old allies, especially when Iraq, by declaring its full merger with Kuwait, has demonstrated that economic sanctions have not altered its policies.

However much the Iraqi attack against Kuwait has faced the Israeli and Arab governments with crisis and disunity, has prepared the ground for foreign intervention in the region, and prompted the Zionist regime to seek more power, it has also taught a few lessons; for instance, is it not about time that regional governments ought, without depending on foreign powers, to set out to establish collective security in the Persian Gulf and really cooperate and collaborate with each other for the sake of the future?

Ambassador to Kuwait Sadeqi Interviewed

LD0908215390 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Interview with Hoseyn Sadeqi, Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, by unidentified moderator on the "Political Roundtable" program; from the Tehran television studio; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to you dear viewer. As you are aware, the region has recently been a witness to the Iraqi forces' military invasion of Kuwait. Last night Iraq announced the annexation of Kuwait to its territory. In light of the military invasion of Kuwait by the Iraqi forces, the news of which has dominated the world media, we have invited Mr. Sadeqi, the Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, to our studio to discuss this issue with him. Mr. Sadeqi, I would first like to thank you for taking part in this program, and if you agree we will begin our program with the showing of a documentary which has been produced by my colleagues. [passage omitted] Mr. Sadeqi, as you watched in the documentary, since 1961 the Iraqis have had many disputes with Kuwait about territorial issues, which has at times led to the massing of Iraqi forces, or probably Kuwait forces too, on the two countries' border. What are the reasons for, and the roots of, these disputes?

[Sadeqi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. My greetings to the dear viewers, and thanks to Tehran television for organizing this program. If you agree I would like to give you a brief background of the events since the period before 1961 when a monarchist regime was ruling Iraq, since which time the territorial disputes between Iraq and Kuwait, and Iraq and Iran have continued to exist. But, the political sovereignty of Great Britain over the southern Persian Gulf littoral, which coordinated relations between the countries, did not allow them to turn their territorial disputes into military clashes. Moreover, there was, in general, a peaceful coexistence among the regional countries—Iraq and Kuwait, Iraq and Iran—which does not, however, mean there were no territorial disputes. On the contrary, they did remain and it may even be described as a seed of discord sown by the British, which they would irrigate whenever they wished, bringing the seed of dispute to fruition. [passage omitted] The annexation of Kuwait by Iraq was one of the strategic aims of the Iraqis in the Ba'ath party, the fulfilment of which would redress their key weakness, that is, lack of a strategic position. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Do you beleive that even now, in the wake of the various developments in the region, Iraq's aim remains the same.

[Sadeqi] Iraq's aim since the 1975 accord and after it resolved its differences with Iran is to improve its relations with the Persian Gulf littorals, in other words, to relinquish its previous motives. After the waging of the imposed war which lasted eight years, culminating in the acceptance of Resolution [598], Iraq made numerous promises to its people, one of which was perhaps that of achieving victory. However, we witnessed that the Iran-Iraq war ended without either country emerging as the superior one. On the one hand, Iraq had substantial debt: It perhaps owes $100 billion to other countries. On the other hand, the Iraqis have always claimed to be leaders of the Arab world. [passage omitted] To take the helm in the Persian Gulf region, Iraq needs to redress its key weakness, that is, the lack of a maritime border. [passage omitted] Moreover, the withdrawal of an army which fought a battle for eight years, sided by the arrogant powers, whom through various means supplied them with the necessary weapons and ammunition, could spell danger of a potential coup d'etat. A powerful force when made redundant can take any action. [passage omitted] In a nutshell, Saddam's motives were four-dimensional: military, political, economic, and domestic. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Some analysts are of the opinion that Saddam's action was catalytic in strengthening the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC] vis-a-vis the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council. How do you assess this issue?

[Sadeqi] After its acceptance of Resolution 598, Iraq with specific motives in mind—the explanation of which would take much time—embarked on the formation of the ACC. In other words, it attempted to bring together the countries of Yemen, Jordan, and Egypt. Perhaps it may be said that those three countries, rank among the poorer countries in the region. Iraq began working on these countries, gradually bringing about comprehensive and profound developments in those countries, reconciling them with his aims, thereby ensuring their presence by his side on the day he embarked on such an action. If we go back in time, looking at the first letter written by Tariq 'Aziz to the Arab Community, we will see that in that letter he leveled a number of accusations against Kuwait. Then, putting his finger on the issue of oil, he declared that a section of the oil revenue should be given to the poorer Arab countries. In my view this is something on which Iraq had earlier agreed with those countries. Perhaps those countries had not envisaged that Iraq's action with respect to Kuwait would take such extensive dimensions. In other words, they did not imagine that Iraq would go as far as attempting to annex Kuwait to Iraq. For example, it can be said that Jordan was on Iraq's side until the last moment. That is, it did not decisively and forcefully condemn Iraq. But now we see that it is among the first countries to condemn the annexation of Kuwait to Iraq. In connection with this we can see that Iraq's predictions were not accurate.

[Moderator] In your view, did the Kuwaitis expect the Iraqis to attack?

[Sadeqi] I don't believe the Kuwaitis expected it. The Kuwaitis after Tariq 'Aziz's first and second letters to the Arab League concerning their moderation in the disagreement between Iraq and Kuwait started widespread political action among the Arab countries. They sent various ministers to these countries in order to (?strengthen) their position. In addition, the regional countries attempted a series of measures to solve the problem through negotiations. In this respect the Egyptians were very active, particularly Mubarak. Jordan and Saudi Arabia were also very active. The Iraqi Government also sent individuals to various countries and they also gave Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and 'Arafat assurances that they did not have any intention to resort

to military means to solve the problem. The Iraqi government also stated that it would not resort to force to solve the problems. This resulted in the Kuwaiti government believing it. Maybe they did not expect the Iraqis to make a move that on the outside was very different from it's real nature. The Kuwaitis were certain of results in their forthcoming discussions with Iraq in Jeddah. They also decided not to pay any ransom to Iraq. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] You noted that Iraqis, like the Egyptians, have always desired to lead the Arab world, as a result of which there have always been disagreements between these two countries. How would Egypt have responded if the [discussions] had led to the leadership of the Arab world by Saddam?

[Sadeqi] From the formation of the ACC we expected it would not take a real form considering the competition between Egypt and Iraq. We witnessed this during the meeting of Arab leaders in Baghdad. Even though there were some results and Saddam managed to obtain some victories, the rift between Arab countries took a more clear and new form. The differences between Mubarak's views and those of the Iraqi Ba'ath party became very clear. In addition, a third view—that of 'Arafat—became apparent. It is possible the Iraqi government expected the same thing. Therefore, we could expect Iraq to want to control the ACC in order to use it for achieving its objectives. Possibly one of its objectives was to put pressure on Saudi Arabia to get money. In other words, the ACC would take a hostile position toward Saudi Arabia and given the deep disagreements between Saudi Arabia and Yemen over borders, the ACC would use Yemen against Saudi Arabia allowing Saddam to achieve his objectives.

[Moderator] Waht is your general view on the UN resolution for the economic embargo of Iraq, and in your view what will be the effects of such a move on the Iraqis?

[Sadeqi] We possibly cannot find another UN resolution that had such uniform international support. Shoud it be implemented, it would affect Iraq in the long term. However, given the interests of various countries, not just in their relationship with Iraq, if the embargo does not have short term results, there will be rifts among various countries. This means they will find ways of accomodating Iraq. I think they may send them many other goods in the guise of food and medicine. Thus, we cannot have a great deal of hope for a positive and useful effect in this respect, in a short period, which would result in Iraq's retreat to its pre-aggression border with Kuwait.

[Moderator] Is the Arab solution they are now talking about anything to do with this?

[Sadeqi] During the few days since the start of the crisis in the region the Arabs have shown that they are incapable of solving the crisis by themselves. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] This is my last question. You mentioned the possible defeat of the United Nations economic embargo. Should this happen do you expect military action by the United Nations?

[Sadeqi] The U.S. Government has drawn a red line that if crossed will result in military action. This is the Iraqi attack against Saudi Arabia. Should Iraq commit any aggression against Saudi Arabia, it will result in military action against Iraq. Considering the latest move by Iraq in annexing Kuwait, this may cause a change in U.S. strategy. It is possible for the United States to resort to military action against Iraq.

[Moderator] Why Saudi Arabia and not Kuwait?

[Sadeqi] Because the greatest and most vital United States interests are in Saudi Arabia and because they consider it to be their main ally in the region.

[Moderator] Considering the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait, will the situation continue?

[Sadeqi] Considering international developments and U.S. interests in the region, it is unlikely for the situation to continue. The major point to consider is that given the current situation and should Iraq's annexation of Kuwait become permanent, Iraq will become a cotninuous threat to the region and Western interests. Therefore, it is unlikely the situation will continue.

[Moderator] What could the role of regional countries, particularly Iran, be in ensuring security and stability?

[Sadeqi] I believe that if we follow the policy that all countries in the region have interests in the region and that the Islamic Republic of Iran has the greatest interest of all, then we would not allow foreign powers any excuse to appear in the region in order to establish peace and stability. If the countries of the region get together they have the capablity to ensure security and stability in the region by signing an agreement so that nobody can damage this stability and security. Maybe the best method would be for the Islamic Republic of Iran to start the foundations of this security with other countries of the Persian Gulf region.

[Moderator] Sorry my last question ended up being very long. Thank you for attending the program.

[Sadeqi] Thank you very much.

Nepal & Bhutan

Communists Say Constitution Commission Secretive

BK1008002490 Hong Kong AFP in English 2056 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 9 (AFP)—Nepal's Communist Party is charging the body drafting the country's new constitution with preparing a document that infringes on free speech.

Posters plastered throughout the capital charged the Constitutional Recommendation Commission (CRC) with preparing an "anti-public constitution."

"The constitution should favour the people," read one poster.

The new constitution would restrict public debate in the elected parliament about the personal conduct of King Birendra and his heir, the Communist Party said.

It also said the contitution draft was being prepared in secret.

But CRC chairman Biswonath Upadhyaya told reporters Thursday that the accusations were "anti-national and reactionary."

He said the CRC was functioning independently of any outside influences, but that when the constitution draft was finished it might be given to the king for his approval.

"It has not yet been finally decided," Mr. Upadhayay said.

The Nepal Communist leaders are demanding that the CRC present its draft constitution to the Council of Ministers for review, after which it would be forwarded to the king.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Nepalese Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly denied Indian press reports that the king consulted with Indian Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral on constitutional matters when they met at the royal palace last weekend.

King Birendra had reportedly asked advice about India's experiences to help Nepal draft its constitution.

At no point during their discussions was the subject of constitution drafting raised by either side, the spokesman said.

Pakistan

Prime Minister Details 'Accountability' Process

BK0908163790 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has said that the judiciary will investigate the accountability of corrupt elements in politics. He was talking to newsmen in Lahore after arriving from Islamabad this afternoon in his first visit there as the prime minister. He said that the process of accountability should not be taken as victimization. The process can be initiated by any citizen, and the government will protect no one in this regard. The prime minister said that first, he would like to present himself to be held accountable. A former martial law government conducted a thorough investigation of me, but it failed to substantiate any allegations. I am ready to be held accountable from the time I entered politics, the prime minister said.

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said that the federal ministers of the interim government must also be held accountable. The process will be initiated in the provinces as well, and there also it will be conducted by the judiciary.

The prime minister categorically rejected that his government has left thousands of people jobless, people who were appointed by the former government. He said that his government will not make the poor jobless, but if anyone is found to have been appointed in an inappropriate manner or is found to be ineligible for the position held, then action will be taken.

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said that his government would like to see the entire country prosper, from the big cities to the small districts. It is not correct to say that because we are a caretaker government, we should not initiate any welfare programs. The caretaker government will take necessary steps to promote industry in backward areas as well, he said.

Answering a question on granting powers to the Army under Article 245 of the Constitution, the prime minister said that no such request has been received by him. The province of Sindh is passing through a delicate situation and the people's lives and property are not safe there. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said that Army was called into the province after the civil government failed to control the situation. He said that the situation in Sindh will be normalized at any cost and that the civilians will be protected.

The prime minister was received by Punjab Governor Mian Mohammad Azhar, Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wayne, and Federal Industry Minister Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain on his arrival at the Lahore airport.

The prime minister attended a meeting of the Islamic Democratic Alliance in Lahore this afternoon, which was presided over by Nawaz Sharif, the alliance chief. The meeting discussed various issues, including the future electoral alliance with like-minded political parties and the present situation. Among others, the meeting was attended by Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne, Federal Industry Minister Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain, Senators Qazi Hussain Ahmad and Asif Safir Athar, Maulana Samiul Haq, Chaudhry Abdul Ghafur, Fakhr Imam, retired Lieutenant General Fazle Haq, and Profesor Ghafur Ahmad. [passage omitted]

Senate Committee Considers More Media Freedom

BK1008022490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] The Senate's Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting held an urgent meeting in Islamabad yesterday which assessed the new situation and considered the media's role in projecting issues in the right perspective. The meeting considered among other important issues giving more freedom to the national

mass media irrespective of which party is in power. The committee chairman, Sayed Fateh Iqbal, presided over the meeting.

Ejazul Haq Criticizes Jatoi Accountability Plan

BK0908130890 Karachi DAWN in English 9 Aug 90 p 3

[Text] Jhelum, Aug 8—Ejazul Haq [son of former President Ziaul Haq] and Raja Mohammad Afzal, ex-MNA [member of National Assembly] on Tuesday challenged Jatoi's Government that how it could hold accountability of the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] dissolved Government when there were more corrupt people in his own cabinet.

They were speaking at a public meeting here which was organised in connection with the observance of Ziaul Haq's second death anniversary. The meeting turned into a campaign for Pakistan Muslim League to launch its electioneering campaign.

Raja Mohammad Afzal was critical of Ms Benazir Bhutto because she had more regard for Jews because she gave civil award to Stephen Solarz.

Ejazul Haq was critical of Jatoi for including in his cabinet people who had in the past stated that they will side with India. He said it was difficult for Jatoi to conduct accountability when a number of corrupt persons were in his own cabinet.

Junejo Opposes Jatoi Appointment as Caretaker

BK0908133890 Lahore THE NATION in English 9 Aug 90 pp 1, 12

[Text] Islamabad—Former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has strongly criticised the appointment of Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi as caretaker prime Minister.

He was presiding over the closed door meeting of Central Working Committee of the PML [Pakistan Moslim League] (J) at the party secretariat here on Wednesday.

The meeting was attended by Mian Nawaz Sharif, caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne, Senators, former Federal Ministers and leaders of the party. The meeting continued for about eight hours with brief intervals.

According to some insiders the former Prime Minister termed the appointment of Mr. Jatoi as COP [Combined Opposition Party] leader a 'blunder'. 'Why not Maulana Fazlur Rehman or Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain,' he questioned. Why should a PPP [Pakistan People's Party] dissident as well as leader of one-man party should lead us. If a PPP dissident leads us it means we are making the people believe that leaders can be born in the PPP only. Mr. Junejo also opposed the idea of any kind of alliance of Muslim League with Mr. Jatoi in the scheduled polls.

"What the hell he can do in his own province where his party exists. Heaven wouldn't fall if he is not included in the future alliance".

Mr. Junejo, however, observed that Muslim League should go in to the polls as a component of a greater alliance.

Our party has worked with Bugti, Fazlur Rehman and Sattar Niazi. We can defeat the peoples Party having a broader alliance. Mr. Junejo told his party leaders that son he would hold talks with other Opposition leaders. Chief of the de facto faction of the party in the NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] as well as the former Governor and former caretaker Chief Minister NWFP Lt. Gen. (Retd) [Lieutenant General (retired)] Fazle Haq and Salim Saifullah the President of the NWFP wing of the party who was supporting the PPP after developing differences with Mian Nawaz Sharif and Fazle Haq, did not attend the meeting.

Mr. Junejo was also critical of the lack of discipline within the party. It is a unique party wherein everybody considers himself the chief, he said. He continued: "When General Zia dissmissed our government a number of our partymen joined the caretaker governments. Same thing has happened now. Why our partymen have joined the interim government. This can prove to be a serious setback for us in the election. PPP can say that the PML was included in the conspiracy against it and that was why its leader joined the caretaker government."

He smilingly said: "What fun can our friends make of three months of power? They should try to get hold of the position for years."

He appreciated the statement of Mian Nawaz Sharif that he has ended all his differences with him. He hoped that in future too there would be no misunderstanding with him or other leaders.

The caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne agreed with Mr Junejo. "We should not have alliance with the parties whose names are not known even by politicians and are led by one person." He also supported the idea of a greater alliance at the level of COP except the ANP [Awami National Party].

He observed that the idea of understanding with Mr. Bugti should be reconsidered. There are no major differences between Mr. Bugti and Wali Khan. With regard to our policy of Afghanistan we can't have any understanding with these people.

He also criticised Musala Fazlur Rehman. He said that in fact the Maulana brought Mr. Bugti to power otherwise Mr. Bugti could never have assumed the office.

Former Federal Minister Nisar Muhammad Khan and some other leaders including senators noted that 'IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] ceased to exist. Mian Nawaz Sharif, who is the chief of the IJI disagreed with these speakers.

Mr. Chatta and Nisar Muhammad Khan said that except JUI [Jamiat-i-Ulem-i-Islam] (F) our party should have no alliance with any other religious party including Jamaat-i-Islami.

They were also critical of the JUI (D). They reminded the controversy with JUI (D) and Jamaat-i-Islami on Sharia [Islamic law] Bill.

'There is no future of religious politics in Pakistan', Hamid Nasir Chatta said. There are 'religious parties in the country and each of them considers the other the Kafir (non-Muslim), and I must say people of the country have been fed up with the religious parties.

There was, however, consensus in the party that 'to defeat the PPP, the PML should contest the elections as a component of a greater alliance.

Soon the party leaders would plan public meetings in major cities of the country and more concentration would be paid to Sindh.

Delhi Notes Opposition Criticism of Bhutto Ouster

BK1008034390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Aug 90

[Text] In Pakistan a number of leaders belonging to opposition groups in the dissolved National Assembly have criticized the recent developments in the country. The former prime minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said that the interim prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, should not take the support of his party for granted and the October elections should be held on schedule. The secretary general of the Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam, Maulana Fazlur Rahman, said he did not see any tangible reasons for dissolving the National Assembly and Ms. Bhutto's government should have been allowed to complete its five-year term.

Bhutto Terms Goverment Ouster 'Military Coup'

PM0908135590

[Editorial report] London ITV Television Network in English at 1800 GMT on 8 August carries an interview in English with former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in a report from Pakistan by Mark Austin during the Channel 4 News program.

After describing her successor as a "puppet of the generals," Bhutto comments on her removal from office and says: "It is in effect a military coup. My house was surrounded by the military; my office, other government offices, telephone, television—all taken over by the military. We are right now poised on the threshold between democracy and dictatorship. Unless the military decides to pull back its own role, I don't see any democracy ahead."

Over video of military training Austin speculates that Bhutto's refusal to grant sweeping powers to deal with the ethnic violence in Pakistan led the army to arrange her removal, and Bhutto says of the allegations of corruption against her government: "They were vague, unsubstantiated, and totally false. The same charges have been made against the former prime minister, so I know that dictators dismiss democrats on the charge of corruption."

Bhutto goes on to voice her misgivings about the military: "They wouldn't like to hold any elections in which I reemerge, and therefore I'm skeptical—skeptical that elections will be held unless we can build up sufficient pressure inside the country and outside that the military must roll back and that freedom and democracy are the ideals of the new world which we are witnessing."

AFP Interviews Bhutto in Karachi 9 Aug

BK0908115290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1139 GMT 9 Aug 90

[By Shamimur Rahman]

[Text] Karachi, Aug 9 (AFP)—Deposed Pakistani Premier Benazir Bhutto said she will seek support from within the movement that helped bring her to power in a bid to reverse what she describes as a quasi-military intervention. "This intervention must roll back either through judicial measures or other action," Ms. Bhutto said in an interview here with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. "The blunder of intervention must be rectified and should not be repeated again."

Ms. Bhutto said she would embark on a nationwide mobilization tour in which she would seek the support of old allies in the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which helped her to power in December 1988.

President Ghulam Ishak Khan dismissed Ms. Bhutto, the leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), from her post on Monday, citing corruption in her administration as well as internal and external security threats. He also dissolved the National Assembly and pledged to hold elections in the fall. The Army and interim Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi have denied Ms. Bhutto's charges that the Army helped depose her.

Asked if she feared legal action in the name of accountability against her and party members to bar them from elections, Ms. Bhutto rejected the allegations of corruption as "baseless." "If they constitute tribunals or special courts to persecute us, that would not be acceptable," she said.

"We will not accept political persecution in the name of accountability. We also want accountability for all those who have now been installed and we know what they have done," Ms. Bhutto added. Refuting charges that financial institutions were plundered during her government, Ms. Bhutto said, "in fact the performance of the banks increased by 70 percent. "Because of the stability of my democratic (institutions), foreign investment increased, but I fear that would come to a halt," she said.

Many commitments like the French and Chinese nuclear power plants and the mirage jet fighter deal with Australia were the outcome of this "goodwill and stability," she said.

On her differences with the Army chief, General Mirza Aslam Beg, Ms. Bhutto said "these were mainly on the overt actions of the military intelligence in Sindh (Province) which culminated in the events of May this year."

Ms. Bhutto's home province of Sindh has been the site of violent ethnic clashes this year. She said "Military intelligence officers had tried to incite people to come out on the streets in the Pucca Qila area of Hyderabad" in Sindh, suggesting that her differences arose not only from the handling of the situation but also the refusal of the Army to accept her point of view.

Ms. Bhutto also charged that military intelligence officers had advised her party members to take part in activities against her government. But [she] said the chief of Army Staff is an "honest man" who had taken the historic decision in favour of allowing the democratic system to work. "I hope he will not waver from his stand," she said.

Ms. Bhutto's singling out military intelligence for removing her government—rather than criticising the Army chief or his corp commanders—gave the impression that she believed that the two had differed on ousting her. Nonetheless many analysts believe that some of the corp commanders, especially of southern Sindh Province, had played an important role her removal.

On the question of desertions from her party, she was confident that the interim administration would not be successful. "People have given a mandate to the Pakistan People's Party and those who were elected would (?stand by) that mandate," she said. "If anyone will disregard that mandate and trust of the electorate he will be rejected," she said.

The interim administration in Sindh is headed by an old guard of the PPP but most of his ministers are from the camp of nationalist Sindhis who are said to be the advocates of greater autonomy and even a confederal system. One of the ministers here reiterated his belief in that system shortly after taking the oath of office.

Foreign Secretary Leaves for Delhi Talks 9 Aug

BK0908112290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 9 Aug 90

[text] The foreign secretary, Mr. Tanvir Ahmad Khan, left Islamabad for New Delhi today for the second round of talks with his Indian counterpart to remove tension between the two countries. The first round was held in Islamabad last month.

Sri Lanka

Army Foils LTTE Attack on Muslim Village

BK1008100690 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0908 GMT 10 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 10 Aug (LANKAPUVATH)—Several members of an LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] killer-squad are believed to have been killed when the army foiled an attempt by them to attack a Muslim village in Medawachchiya in the North Central Province in the early hours today, the DAILY OBSERVER reports.

According to initial reports a group of about 50 terrorists, who arrived in the village of Siyambalagaskanda at about 0200 hours (local time) today, were about to set about killing the villagers when the timely arrival of soldiers from the Yakawewa detachment stopped them.

In the ensuing exchange of fire many terrorists are believed to have been killed or critically wounded. The terrorists have also abandoned a tractor and trailer in which they arrived in the village, after the tractor hit a culvert and overturned.

Stock of LTTE Ammunition Seized in Ampara

BK1008100290 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0903 GMT 10 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 10 August (LANKAPUVATH)—During a search operation in the Ampara District, Special Task Force troops recovered a large stock of ammunition in a LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] hideout at Rottekulam, security sources told LANKAPUVATH.

They said that large stocks of AK-47 ammunition and 10-mm cartridges were recovered by the security forces.

In the Batticaloa District in Chantiveli, security forces ambushed and killed one terrorist and recovered a hand grenade. In Periypullimalai six soldiers were injured due to an explosion.

Samalankulam, a Tamil village in the Vavuniya District, was attacked by a group of unknown persons. Three civilians were killed and six houses were set on fire, the sources said.

On Wednesday, security forces established two new security detachments in the Trincomalee District.

Kaliodai security forces detachment in the Ampara District, the Elephant Pass detachment, Mullaitivu detachment and the Talaimannar detachments came under terrorist mortar and small arms fire. No casualties were reported in Kankesanturai. Four terrorists were killed by security forces snipers.

During the last 48 hours, nine JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] suspects surrendered to the security forces in Polonnaruwa. During a search operation in Colombo, police arrested a subversive suspect. Six Tamil suspects, with LTTE literature in their possession, were arrested in Nuwara-Eliya, the sources said.